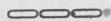


GRAND LODGE OF MANITOBA

A.F. & A.M.



Addresses of

M. W. GRAND MASTER

R. W. GRAND CHAPLAIN

Reports

ON THE CONDITION OF FREEMASONRY

ON CORRESPONDENCE



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GRAND LODGE OF MANITOBA

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GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS

Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba,
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

It is with the greatest satisfaction that I welcome you to this, the Fifty-fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. With humble hearts we turn in thankfulness to the G. A. O. T. U. for the peace and prosperity of the year that is past. Though there have been many alarms and rumors of strife, yet the Angel of Peace has been with us and we humbly pray the Giver of All Good that we may continue to enjoy the blessing of that gracious gift from the hand of the Most High.

During the past year the whole British Empire passed through a season of great anxiety when His Most Gracious Majesty King George V. was so dangerously ill. It seemed for a time as though the Grim Reaper would lay low this perfect gentleman, who could ill be spared from the affairs of men, and a great cloud seemed to rest over, not only our Empire, but the whole world. Day after day we waited for tidings from the royal sick-bed, far across the sea, hoping and praying that the healing power of God would be manifested and His Majesty be healed. The whole world rejoiced when the news came that the royal patient was out of danger. I know this Grand Lodge joins with me in reverently thanking Almighty God for the return to health of our King. May he long be spared to reign over us in peace.

You will note in the report of the Committee of Fraternal Dead that during the past year many of our brethren have left us. They have laid down their tools, their work being finished, and have passed to the Grand Lodge above. Our sympathy goes out to those who are grieving for friends who are gone. May they realize that the Master of Life has them in his tender care, that no burden will be laid on them greater than they can bear. We know our brethren have gone from us, they have heard the Master's voice saying, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into thy rest."

The year that has passed has been one wonderfully free from all contentious questions. No differences of opinion, nothing that might in any way mar the good understanding existing in this Grand Jurisdiction has come before me for decision. The brethren, I believe, do not allow anything of that nature to manifest at any time. A knowledge of the Constitution and Masonic customs and usages has been manifested and the true spirit of Masonry prevails in all parts of the Jurisdiction.

We come here from every part of the Grand Jurisdiction as the representatives of Freemasonry. Let us reverently pray that peace and harmony may be manifested in all our deliberations,

that each one of us may desire only the good of our fraternity and the betterment of mankind, that all enactments may be for the benefit of the Craft wheresoever dispersed. I would ask that you give serious and thoughtful consideration to all the business of this communication, in order, that your decisions may be wise, just, and in accordance with the great principles of brotherly love, relief and truth.

Masonry comes down to us from a mighty past, its origin is lost in the mists of antiquity; no man can say that our Ancient Craft had its beginning at any certain date, for no man knows, but to me Masonry has always existed, the great principles on which our fraternity is founded have always been in the world, waiting recognition by the human race. That being so, to me it seems quite reasonable to suppose that there was always a number who believed in and practised the principles of our beloved Order. Masonry runs like a silver cord through the centuries that are gone, sometimes blazing out in the golden light of brotherly love and again becoming almost invisible because of war, revolution and persecution. But there was ever a faithful few who held aloft the torch of Masonry, no matter how troublous and dangerous the times, the believers in the Craft continued to practise the time-honored principles of our fraternity, those principles that were old when earth was young and which will be young and fresh when the G. A. O. T. U. rolls up the heavens as a scroll and all things will have merged into that new heaven and that new earth to which we as Masons look forward with longing eyes and for which we humbly pray.

During my term of office, I have endeavored to impress upon the brethren the fact that Masonry is not something that you can take off with you regalia and leave in the ante room of your Lodge. It is something to be taken home and used in the family life; it is something to be used in your business affairs, in every walk of life and in every circumstance. Every Mason should bear in mind that in his hands is the reputation of our time-honored institution. If he is careless of his own reputation, he is careless of the reputation of Masonry. If he leaves his Masonry with his regalia and uses it only at Lodge meetings, he is a member only and is not a Mason. Just as soon as a brother has taken his first obligation he must assume the duties and responsibilities of Masonry and from then until the final summons they are continuously with him. He cannot escape these responsibilities; he may say he will not accept these burdens, but they are his and he must do his duty to the Craft or be one of the failures that never achieve, one of those who stand by the shining way of Masonry, letting more alert brethren pass them by, knowing not what they have lost.

Brethren, every man born into this world has a work to do; we are given our lives and on them we must labor and out of them

we must erect a building, perfect in its parts and honorable to the builder. From the cradle to the grave, we must make use of the material given us by the Master Builder, we must build it into our lives, the stones of the walls are formed from the good deeds and the service we have been able to render, not only to our Masonic brethren, but to those who are not members of the Craft, who it may be thought have no claim upon us. But, my brethren, Masonry is not confined to members of the Order only, it is wide as the world and belongs to every age and time. Our hand and heart should go out to all people who are in distress, upon whom the burdens of life are bearing heavily, whose days are dreary and filled with toil, whose nights are long and weary through fear of the days to come. If we are able, may we relieve the afflictions of those less fortunate and perhaps less able than ourselves and thus in some small measure help lessen the burden under which some weaker brother may be struggling.

I have found everywhere I went a great reverence for the established customs and Ancient Landmarks of our Order. The brethren seem to feel the mighty force of those lessons so beautifully taught in the stately and dignified ceremonies of the Masonic Craft. I believe the influence of Masonry in the lives of our members has never been greater. I also believe that this influence in the different communities is rapidly increasing, showing that the members are living the great principles of our order in their daily lives, proving to the world that the Ancient Craft is a living force now active in the affairs of men.

I have endeavored to attend all the District Meetings and have been present at each of them except that of the Ninth Masonic District, the state of the roads, preventing on that occasion. The meetings were held in the following order:—

- July 25th Sixth Masonic District, at Lauder.
- August 7th Fifth Masonic District, at Shellmouth.
- August 8th Second Masonic District, at Neepawa.
- August 24th Tenth Masonic District, at Stony Mountain.
- September 20th. Seventh Masonic District, at Brandon.
- September 26th. Fourth Masonic District, at Manitou.
- September 27th. Eighth Masonic District, at Myrtle.
- October 4th Third Masonic District, at Cypress River.
- October 11th Eleventh Masonic District, at Swan River.

In common with former Grand Masters, I would draw attention to the great difference in management of the various District Meetings. A District Meeting, to be successful, must be carefully planned and well managed; no District Meeting will run itself. The presence of the Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers is not sufficient to insure its success. These meetings are primarily for the discussion of questions affecting the District and secondly for the discussion of subjects of interest to the Craft in

general. From observation, I believe there are brethren in every District who are well able to present any Masonic subject to their District Meeting. The meeting belongs to the District, not to the Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers. The Grand Lodge Officers are the guests of the District, and should not be expected to provide the whole program. In fact, I believe a District should be able to conduct a very successful meeting without a Grand Lodge Officer being present.

This brings us back to the appointment of District Deputy Grand Masters. The best man available in every District should be appointed to that office, whether it is the turn of that Lodge, or not. The object in view should be the advancement of the Craft, not that of the individual.

I am pleased to note that inter-lodge visitation is increasing in many parts of the Jurisdiction, especially so in the larger centres, where the distances between Lodges are not great. I would be glad to see our Rural Lodges pay more attention to this phase of Masonry. To understand our brother we must know him. How can we know the brother we have never met? I would therefore urge on the brethren from the country, not only to visit the Lodges near to their own Lodge, but, if possible, to visit a Lodge in one of the larger centres at least once a year. I know the City Lodges would be delighted to receive them. I assure my rural brethren they would have no cause to complain of lack of Masonic welcome.

There have been many important meetings throughout the Jurisdiction the past year. On October 12th an Old Timers' Meeting was held under the auspices of Lord Selkirk Lodge, No. 137. On December 14th Reston Lodge, No. 104, opened their new lodge-room, one of the finest Masonic homes in rural Manitoba. On January 28th "The Assiniboine" Lodge, No. 114, held its annual "at home." On January 29th Northern Light Lodge, No. 10, held the fifteenth anniversary of the institution of their Lodge. There was in this meeting a note of thankfulness for a great past and a firm resolve to achieve an equally great future. On February 27th Acacia Lodge, No. 111, observed the twentieth anniversary of its institution. On April 16th Norwood Lodge, No. 119, held its annual "at home." King Edward Lodge held a four-day celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of their Lodge. A unique feature of this celebration was the presence of all of their Past Masters at each of the meetings. I was able to attend only the last meeting, on April 17th.

There were also many other meetings besides those mentioned. The regular meetings being exceedingly interesting and instructive. I would not undertake to give a detailed description of all these various meetings; all of them were of great inspirational value to the craft, being filled with information regarding the application of the principles of Masonry, and with thoughts

that gave many of us a new outlook on life and a higher conception of the mission of our Ancient Order.

The report of the various District Deputy Grand Masters, and the reports of the many committies of the different departments of Grand Lodge will be laid before you in due course. From them you will learn the detailed workings and activities of the Craft in this Grand Jurisdiction. This aspect of Masonry I have left to those officers and committees who are so familiar with them, believing they are much more able to report on these things that come under their hands than the Grand Master, who has not an intimate knowledge of these manifold activities.

There is in the world to-day a great restlessness, a feeling of suspicion and distrust of our fellowman. Nations look with fear and enmity on other nations with whom they should be friends, towards whom they should entertain only thoughts of kindness and confidence. International affairs, throughout the world, are filled with animosity and envy. The angel of peace seems to have covered his face with his wings of light, weeping tears of sorrow for a confused and wearied world, which blindly following a line of thought and action, that unless checked, will bring a catastrophe such as shook the foundations of civilization in those years of horror and despair from 1914 to 1918. We pray the Great Architect of the Universe that those years of fear and darkness may never return.

Is there not some way by which this Great and Ancient Order may take an active part towards the establishment of the peace of the world? I believe the Masonic Order is great enough and powerful enough to be a mighty factor in the accomplishment of a permanent world peace.

Any order, any sect, any movement taking place in world affairs, when it has attained that for which it came into being, must change its aims or disappear, its work having been finished. The Ancient Order of Masonry has come down to us throughout the centuries, its aims and objects unchanged. Might it not be that the establishment of peace is Masonry's great opportunity? May it not be that the time has arrived when this great Order may step from behind tyled doors, and with its unlimited power inaugurate a mighty movement for the perfect peace of the world.

Could there be anything, any idea, any avenue of action that would more fittingly and more perfectly demonstrate the great principle of brotherly love than united action among all the Grand Jurisdictions of the world towards universal peace.

I desire to convey to the Grand Lodge Officers and to our Past Grand Masters, my profound gratitude for their unvarying kindness and support. They were at all times ready to assist me in every possible way and I thank those distinguished brethren

for their unswerving loyalty to their Grand Master. Particularly would I mention M.W. Bro. James A. Ovas, our genial and kindly Grand Secretary. He has been willing at all times to make the work of the Grand Master easier, taking on himself labor that, perhaps, should have been the duty of the Grand Master. He watches over this Grand Jurisdiction with eyes of love, a love that lightens the burdens of many a weary brother Mason. His hand is the hand of a brother indeed. His smile is a benediction, filling our hearts with love. His presence reminds us of those mighty principles of the Ancient Order he loves so well, of which he is the Perfect Exemplar. May the Master Builder grant him health, strength and great length of days, that he may go in and out among us that we may enjoy the benefits of his wide experience and ripe wisdom through years to come. Grand Masters come and Grand Masters go, but there is only one Brother Ovas.

And now brethren, in turning back to you the sacred trust delivered to me one year ago, I wish to express my heartfelt thanks for your great kindness to me,—for all you have done for me and for all you have meant to me. It is only by your labors that Masonry stands on the high plane of achievement that it does to-day in this Grand Jurisdiction. Had the great principles of the Craft meant nothing to you, the shield of Masonry would have been dimmed, and the tenets of our order would have lost their lustre and we would have been sitting in sack-cloth and ashes mourning a greatness that was gone. But my brethren you have believed in and practised the great principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, and by precept and example have exemplified faith in God, hope in salvation and charity towards all men. To me this year has been one of high endeavor, a year on the mountain tops of Masonry, a year of life in the lofty altitudes of the Ancient Order, where one is far above the trials and troubles, the envy and hatred of ordinary life, where one meets the brethren of many lodges and finds in their hearts a great love, genuine and deep and true for our time honored institution and a wonderful regard for the affairs of the Grand Lodge. I have made many warm friends in the different lodges, and one of the sad things to me is that those friendships may now be interrupted for lack of opportunity of meeting. We may drift apart, but I assure the brethren the memory of those days of meeting and the kindly welcome given me wherever I went will never be forgotten.

Fraternally submitted,

M. A. WHIMSTER,
Grand Master.

GRAND CHAPLAIN'S ADDRESS

R.W. Bro. Rev. George W. Findlay, Grand Chaplain was introduced by the M.W. the Grand Master, and delivered the following address:—

To the M.W. the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, A.F. & A.M.

M.W. Sir and Brethren:—

Life is a great mystery, and who is he who, having learned to think at all, has not felt that life is a great mystery? From the mystery of the past we come, through the mystery of the present we march—touching life at one point in the great eternity of time, much as an insect in the course of its flight from one place to another, touches the great river as it moves oceanwards—and when this stage of life is over, out into the mystery of the future we go. Mystery dogs our footsteps at every turn. It is about us as the air we breathe is about us.

And I venture to say it is this note of mystery that has stirred up in the minds of thinking men in the past, and is stirring up in the minds of thinking men in the present the choicest and most compelling thoughts that are our priceless possession. It has been and is a most fruitful source of high and noble thinking.

It excited the passionate questionings of the philosophers of ancient Greece in their efforts to solve the riddle of the mystery of life. It prompted them to ask: "What is life?" "What is man?" "In his short life what is he meant to be and do?" "Whence came he?" "Whither is he wending his way?" "What is his ideal?" "Who is the man of men he should strive to be like?" It prompted the Hebrew poet—King David—as he surveyed the world in which he lived, to exclaim: "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast ordained—what is man that thou art mindful of him?" The mystery of life has always stirred up in the minds of thinking men the spirit of wonder, and wonder always will ask questions.

I believe the world of today is suffering from a decay of the sense of wonder, with all that it means. As a race we are no longer children; we have grown up, and thereby we have forfeited the child's priceless gift of wonder. We are surfeited with the material and the matter-of-fact and the prose of life, and proportionately we are blind to the immaterial and the spiritual and the poetry of life. The words of a sonnet, entitled, "Plain Living and High Thinking", from the pen of the great English poet, William Wordsworth, and written in 1803, are suggestive

at least for our life of today over a century later. May I quote it in full:

“O friend, I know not which way I must look
For comfort, being as I am opprest
To think that now our life is only drest
For show; mean handiwork of craftsman, cook,
Or groom. We must run glittering, like a brook
In the open sunshine, or we are unblest.
The wealthiest man among us is the best.
No grandeur now in Nature or in book
Delights us. Rapine, avarice, expense—
This is idolatry, and these we adore.
Plain living and high thinking are no more—
The homely beauty of the good old cause
Is gone—our peace, our simple innocence,
And pure religion, breathing household laws.”

Is there any doubt as to the pressure and speed and complexity of modern life which, while not for one moment do we wish to deplore, yet we must acknowledge it,—has its dangers? There can be no question that the passion for luxury, which is largely material in character, is a mighty barrier in the way of High Thinking. The loss of a relish for worship, of the impulse to adore, of the instinct of reverence, is a loss of so great and so sad a character that it cannot be exaggerated. It is the penalty that we pay for worshipping at unworthy shrines.

A writer in a recent number of the “Hibbert Journal” has declared himself on this point as follows: “There must necessarily be a miraculous element,—understanding by miracle, not the old view that it is a reversal of the laws of nature, but that it inspires wonder or marvel at something we are unable to account for. The wonder may be at the mystery of nature or of the universe; it may be the admiration of the power which restores health or even life; it may be moved by the contemplation of God working in the world or in the human heart, or by the grace felt to be gained by some religious rite. . . . But whether in the universe, or in sacraments, there must be this element of wonder to promote that reverence for some power outside ourselves and incomprehensible to us.”

The same thought—in words that may make a stronger appeal—was couched in striking poetic language by one who wrote to Signor Marconi when it was learned that he hoped to establish wireless communication with the planet Mars:

“Leave us the stars.
This world hath noise enough
Without the roar of Mars:
Rob not the holy places of their calm,

Bring us no idle gossip of the spheres.
 Nor desecrate the psalm
 That on still nights, into our burdened ears
 Pours its mysterious balm.
 Leave us the stars, O wizard,
 Leave us the stars."

In other words, don't so materialize and rationalize life as to rob us of the spirit of mystery and the sense of wonder.

"To be astonished at anything is the first movement of the mind towards discovery", says the writer of "Pasteur and His Work". And this is true. Whether in nature or in grace, in the material or in the spiritual realm, no great discovery can be made until the sense of wonder is aroused; indeed, it may be said no effort in the direction of discovery will be made until the sense of wonder is aroused. How easily we catch the mind of Tennyson as we imagine him with wonder viewing the flower of which he wrote these well-known lines:

"Flower in the crannied wall,
 I pluck you out of the crannies,
 Hold you here, root and all, in my hand,
 Little flower, if I could understand
 What you are, root and all, and all in all,
 I should know what God and man is."

Wonder at the mystery wrapped up in the little flower was the initial step toward the discovery of a great truth. And what did Wordsworth discover as he surveyed with studious eye and mind the wonder of the mystery of Nature? He tells us in his Prelude XIII, 26 ff:

"A Power

That is the visible quality and shape
 And image of right reason; that matures
 Her processes by steadfast laws; gives birth
 To no impatient or fallacious hopes,
 No vain conceits; provokes to no quick turns
 No heat of passion or excessive zeal,
 Of self-applauding intellect; but trains
 To meekness, and exalts by humble faith;
 Holds up before the mind intoxicate
 With present objects, and the busy dance
 Of things that pass away, a temperate show
 Of objects that endure."

It is as we indulge the sense of wonder in the face of the mystery of life that we can hope to rise above the lower levels while we still continue to play our part, and that a more worthy part, on this terrestrial merry-go-round.

Now undoubtedly the principles of our Masonic Fraternity endorse this point of view. Masonry speaks to us of the Whence and the Why and the Whither of life; it reconciles the deeply spiritual with the intensely practical; it takes us up to the ethereal heights only to remind us that our immediate duty is here and now on the levels of earth; that character is the supreme end of life, and that all life's rewards have character as a means and foundation, that character means Fate, that in the words of John Pierpont Morgan, in a phrase which, in twenty-four hours had circled the globe, "Character is the basis of credit". And if we should be permitted to add a word to it we would say, "both here and hereafter".

It is this blend that is so necessary to our life today; the ready and spontaneous combination of the sacred and the secular; the looking up and the looking down and about. The contemplative life and the practical, neither of which may be divorced from the other. We are told that when Moses came down from the mount he "wist not that his face shone". He was not aware of his gift and of his influence. Nevertheless it was there, and it was real, and it had been lighted by his fellowship.

Three members of the Apostolic band met the Incarnate God on the Mount of Transfiguration and were content. . They would fain remain there, and said one: "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three abiding-places." The reply to his request was startling—the vision faded, and coming down to earth there was the task awaiting them and demanding their immediate attention, the demoniac boy. The old Greek myth reminds us that Prometheus could kindle no fire on earth till he had snatched it from heaven; he must climb up where the gods were before he could light the fire which has never gone out on human hearths. And we, as men and Masons, must do likewise. We have a glorious heritage; the principles of our Fraternity are of superlative quality; by precept and allegory we are taught to translate these principles into action; our prayers are offered that He will "so influence our hearts and minds that we may each of us practice out of the Lodge those great moral duties which are inculcated within it".

The criticism is sometimes offered that with some Masons their Masonry is what their religion is to some professing Christians; just as the latter are sometimes accused of reserving their religion for Sundays, so some of the former are at times accused of reserving their Masonry for Lodge nights. No Mason should, of course, bring his business into his Lodge, but that need not preclude him from bringing his Masonry into his business. Nay, that is his duty. The very name Mason should be a guarantee, not only to the Fraternity, but to the whole world, of uncorruptible honesty, strict integrity, and that personal fidelity

upon which everyone may, with the utmost confidence, rely. To do and be this, however, first things must come first. It is not by accident that in the economy of God our duty to God takes precedence over our duty to our neighbor. And it is not by accident that we as Masons are continually directed to the G.A.O.U., to God Almighty, as the source and inspiration of all things, and whose revealed will must be the law of our life.

The recognition that "God is in His heaven, therefore all is right with the world", is as true for us as it was for Browning. You have entered at some time some great city by train on one of our high level railway lines, and have looked down upon the crowded roofs, each roof covering some little home or homes filled with teeming, human lives; and as you have observed, you have recalled that over that mass of life, and love, and disease, and hatred, and misery and poverty, and squalor, and work, over every street and every home, over every man and woman and child in every street, just as once over the darkness of chaos, the Spirit of Almighty God is brooding, working still to bring light out of darkness, and order out of confusion, and life out of death.

Moreover, this faith is the ground of our optimism for ourselves, for our brothers, and for the world. Our conviction is that no one has yet stood up and struck a blow for the right and true, but there fighting beside him, were all the permanent forces of the universe; that no one ever yet lived in the spirit of unselfishness and sunny self-sacrifice, but his life was already made one with that love which moves the sun and the stars. And though as you look here and there, as you watch at this point of the battlefield or at that, it may seem there is no progress, no victory at all, yet when you climb to higher ground and take a wider view, you will not doubt that God's day is long enough, and God's arm strong enough, for God's battle.

"For while the tired waves, vainly breaking,
Seem here no painful inch to gain,
Far back, through creeks and inlets making,
Comes silent, flooding in, the main.
And not by Eastern windows only,
When daylight comes, comes in the light,
In front the sun climbs slow, how slowly,
But westward, look, the land is bright."

It is our function being ourselves leaven to help leaven the lump of society, to help make the world a better world, to reflect the Light which we know is shining, to help in bringing in the Perfect Day.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CONDITION OF FREEMASONRY

To the M.W. the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the
Grand Lodge of Manitoba, A.F. & A.M.

The Board of General Purposes through its Committee on
the Condition of Freemasonry begs to report as follows:—

One of the duties charged to this Committee is to make a
close study of the Condition of Freemasonry in this Jurisdiction.

Your Committee has endeavored to do this by going very
carefully over the various reports and tabulated statements of
the District Deputy Grand Masters, and of the secretaries of the
various Lodges, and by, as far as within their power, getting into
personal contact by attending District Meetings and Lodge
Meetings throughout the year.

Your Committee, with the approval of Grand Lodge, met in
conference with the retiring and newly appointed District Deputy
Grand Masters on the day following the termination of the sessions
of Grand Lodge. This proved very helpful indeed to all
concerned. We feel that the newly-appointed profited by the
experience gained by their predecessors, and we were able to
get into closer contact with these important officials, and prob-
ably gave counsel and advice which may be of help to them in
their work. This was followed up later by sending to each a
clear and concise statement of their duties and responsibilities.

Returns from the Constituent Lodges show an increase in
membership, and reports from the District Deputy Grand Masters
indicate a healthy and vigorous condition in the greater part of
our Lodges. It is not, however, by the size of our membership,
nor in the increase thereof, that our condition should be judged,
but rather by the spirit of willingness and determination to carry
on our work to the limit of our capacity.

This spirit is being manifested in our Lodges today to a
far greater extent than ever before. The Branches of the
Masonic Tree have borne fruit.

We do not need a tremendous influx of new members, but
rather to re-vitalize the Masonic spirit of our present membership
and really make Freemasonry a working principle in the lives
of the members of the Craft.

The character of our membership is the most important
element of our strength, and to its purity we should add our zeal.

We feel that it has been a year of harmony, of zealous
activity, and of generous progress along many lines.

Ours is a fraternity which emphasizes not the spectacular, but the simple, fundamental principles of a worthy life, a society whose mission it is to build a character in men, which will find its truest expression in private and public morality, and which will exhibit in all human relations the Divine Wisdom of Love.

In the material factors which go to make up the sum of progress in Freemasonry in its collective aspects, it is worthy of note that, financially, the Order appears to have gained strength during the past year. This is especially noticeable with respect to Charity and Benevolence. Over \$10,000 was donated by the Constituent Lodges alone, while the total assets over liabilities of these Lodges amounts to over \$320,000.

A careful scrutiny of the printed proceedings of Grand Lodge should be made by all Grand Lodge Officers and Officers of Constituent Lodges. As a rule, little attention is paid to a report made up principally of figures. A study of the report of the Committee on Credentials and Reception shows some significant facts. Six Lodges were without representation at Grand Lodge in 1927; six in 1928. Of these, one has failed to send delegates during the past three years, and two during the past two years. This is a matter which should occupy the attention of the District Deputy Grand Masters concerned.

We note that in some Lodges there is an increased attendance of members at the regular meetings, yet we regret to state that the attendance in general is hardly satisfactory, and that some of the Lodges in the larger centres are the worst offenders. This adds materially to the responsibilities of the officers of these Lodges, and presents a problem which should be grappled with and solved.

Perhaps one of the causes of this unsatisfactory state of affairs may be the monotonous, mechanical repetition of unexplained ceremonies. The average member desires more than this, and we would urge a more general use of the Grand Lodge Library, the establishment of Lodge Libraries, and the featuring of Educational Lectures and Essays bearing on Masonic topics, as a remedy, bearing in mind that we should be earnest seekers after light and knowledge as enjoined on us and outlined in the Fellow Craft Degree.

Analysis of the statistical reports for the year ending December 31st, 1928, shows a resident membership of 8,835, and a non-resident membership of 3,270, giving a grand total of 12,105. The average attendance at Lodge meetings—regular and emergent—based on resident membership only, was 35.6 per cent., or about one in every three was present. District No. 11 made the best showing with 55 per cent., and District No. 1 the poorest with 26.5 per cent.

All the Lodges, with six exceptions, carry insurance on their property, and 24 Lodges own their own halls.

For the year ending December 31st, 1927, there were 1,490 or 12.5 of the total membership twelve months or more in arrears, and showing arrearages of \$18,329.43. This year there were 1,739 members in arrears, with \$20,840.30 arrearages.

We might reasonably ask: Does this show a healthy state of affairs? Are the dues, generally speaking, too high? Or is it lack of good business methods on the part of executive officers?

In the best interests of the Order, we feel that Grand Lodge should institute enquiry as to causes, and the possibility of reducing these deficits. We might point out with pride, however, and this is significant, that the following Lodges report no member in arrears with a consequent lack of arrearages:—

Prince of Wales, Minota, Reston, Sturgeon Creek, Jubilee, and The Dormer; while Kilwinning, Concord and Waskada report only one each; and Hamiota, The Pas, Harmony, and Fort Garry (with 173 members), report two each; and Tweed Lodge, Brandon (with a membership of 263), has three members in arrears.

Your committee is further charged with the responsibility of securing, for the more efficient performance of its duties, the co-operation of Grand Officers and Masters of Lodges. We should like to draw the attention of Grand Lodge, and the District Deputy Grand Masters in particular, to the importance of sending in full, accurate, complete and timely reports of their work. At the time of writing, several secretaries have neglected to send in Form 20. This neglect, and the criticism is made in the most fraternal spirit, has seriously hindered the Grand Secretary in the due and methodic performance of his duties, and your Committee in the preparation of this report.

For several years past this Committee has drawn the attention of Grand Lodge to this neglect. While we can point with pride to many faithful and efficient secretaries, yet we regret to say that a number are apparently unconcerned about the impressions that may be created about their attitude, or the reputation of the Lodges for whom they are acting.

Your Committee would again emphasize that a strict compliance with the details of the work is essential.

Even in the larger Lodges, degree work should not be transferred altogether to emergent meetings. The Entered Apprentice Degree, assuredly, should be conferred at the regular meetings, and in its entirety, and with extreme perfection on all points.

If the Lodge organization is such that business details can be handled by Committees, thus leaving time for the real work of Freemasonry, all degrees, unless there is good reason to the contrary, could be worked at the regular meetings. No part of a degree should be postponed to a later date, nor should any part of the work, which ought to be imparted individually, be spurred or speeded up by group movement. The Individual has rights which must not be infringed. The expressed judgment of the Craft is against haste.

We have read with deep appreciation the reports of the D.D.G.M.'s, which give ample evidence of their faithfulness in the performance of their duties. They have given of their time and talents freely, and the improvement shown is no doubt largely due to their zeal and earnestness in the performance of their tasks. They are the field men in a noble and worthy enterprise. We need, when choosing successors to these men, to consider only the needs of the Craft in general, and not the ambitions of a Lodge or an individual, and we would strongly urge the total abolition of the Rotation System and the selection of men of merit and ability, who can give inspiration and leadership and criticize constructively, so that the Spirit and Form of Freemasonry may be kept in due proportion.

Your Committee again recommends: "That it is advisable that every newly elected D.D.G.M. be present at the Annual Communication at which he is elected, and that he be requested to remain over an extra day, at the expense of Grand Lodge, to take part in a Conference with the Committee on the Condition of Freemasonry; and further, that all retiring District Deputy Grand Masters are expected to preside in person over their District Meetings, and also to remain at the expense of Grand Lodge for the Conference with their successors, to be held immediately following the meeting of Grand Lodge."

Your Committee regrets that it has received no report or other communication from the District Deputy Grand Master of the Ninth Masonic District, although we understand the conditions in that district are very satisfactory.

In conclusion, your Committee recommends that the rank of Past District Deputy Grand Master be conferred upon the following named brethren as an appreciation of their faithful work:—

Rt. Wor. Bro. Alfred H. Steventon.....	First Masonic District
Rt. Wor. Bro. Fred Leach	Second Masonic District
Rt. Wor. Bro. Wilbert F. Pentland.....	Third Masonic District
Rt. Wor. Bro. Joseph W. Gordon.....	Fourth Masonic District
Rt. Wor. Bro. Andrew S. Wallace.....	Fifth Masonic District
Rt. Wor. Bro. George J. Landreth	Sixth Masonic District
Rt. Wor. Bro. Hugh M. Kerr.....	Seventh Masonic District

Rt. Wor. Bro. Woodfield Fitz-Henry	Eighth Masonic District
Rt. Wor. Bro. Charles V. McLelland	Tenth Masonic District
Rt. Wor. Bro. Charles E. Spencer	Eleventh Masonic District
Rt. Wor. Bro. Matt. Baillie	Twelfth Masonic District

Fraternally Submitted,

GEORGE HUNTER,
Chairman.

REVIEW OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF FOREIGN JURISDICTIONS

FOREWORD

In presenting this Report, I have endeavored to choose such items as I believe will be interesting to the majority of brethren. A matter on which I have felt strongly for many years appears to be receiving more and more attention as time goes on, namely, the imparting of instruction to brethren regarding the real meanings of Freemasonry. I have for long believed that want of interest in the Craft is mainly the result of want of knowledge of those teachings. The fault very often lies not so much with those who are not interested, as with those who have the knowledge and fail to communicate it, but I also believe that the worst enemy to Masonic education is that so many do not know how little they know about it.

In reviewing the Proceedings of the Grand Lodges of the United States, mention has not been made of the manner in which they responded to the calls for help made necessary by such disasters as those which occurred in Florida and the Mississippi Valley because

the same applies to all of them, the assistance was prompt and generous.

Large increases in membership are not the rule; in fact, some Jurisdictions report decreases. This, however, may only be a sign of more strict observance of the Constitutions and greater care in selection.

Where differences of laws or customs are pointed out, no claim is made as to which is the better, but they are mentioned for our mutual benefit by comparison with each other.

I acknowledge with thanks the assistance of R.W. Bro. D. S. Woods in preparing this Report, and have placed his initials below each Jurisdiction which he reviewed.

The Reports of a few Jurisdictions have not been commented on as unfortunately a parcel containing them appears to have gone astray. This was not known until too late for others to be sent in time to be reviewed. Those neglected Jurisdictions will please accept this apology and explanation.

J. C. WALKER REID, P.G.M.

ALABAMA—1928

James N. Pearson, Grand Master

Quotations from the Grand Master's address when speaking of suspensions and Masonic education:

"This has been a hard year on fraternal institutions. Shall we allow the automobile, the radio, the picture show and other entertainments and luxuries deprive us of the real joy that comes as a result of duty faithfully done?

"Some of the Lodges do not want the lecturers to visit them, if I may judge from the lack of courtesy shown or the cool reception given. The Lodges that can do good work without the help of lecturers are usually glad to have the lecturers visit them. The

Lodges that can not do Grand Lodge Work do not want to be disturbed by any one.

"Believing that ignorance of the meaning of our Masonic interest in Masonry and the poor attendance at our Masonic gatherings, I had the following letter sent to all the Lodges:"

The letter mentioned urges the presentation to each newly-made Mason of a copy of M.W. Bro. Street's book, "The Symbolism of Freemasonry." A recommendation which was approved reads as follows:

"The degrees may, however, in the discretion of the Lodge, be conferred on ministers of the gospel, without the payment of fees for the degrees, but every person before taking the first degree must pay the sum of ten dollars for the use and benefit of the Maintenance Fund of the Alabama Masonic Home."

And on looking up the "Recapitulation" we find these items:

Number of Members	53,293
Number of Ministers	1,546

A Masonic Home is maintained, and the number of residents in October, 1928, was 385, the large majority being boys and girls. The cost of maintenance for the year was \$69,254.

Owing to the illness of Bro. Stillwell, the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, no reviews were prepared.

ARIZONA—1928

George Emet McMillan, Grand Master

The Grand Master visited every Lodge, though his business made it impossible for him to be away from home for long at a time. He did well. There are thirty-six Lodges in the Jurisdiction. He takes a very charitable view as regards clandestine Lodges, but it is difficult to see what can be done to improve matters. Different conditions exist there than here, and it is impossible for us to judge from so far away. The Com-

mittee on the Address takes a firm stand and recommends:

"The reference of this matter to the incoming Grand Master with power and authority to take such steps and Court action as may be necessary to suppress any attempt by any one to improperly or unlawfully use any sign, name, insignia of Masonry unlawfully."

A special Committee had been appointed to revise the ritual and reports in part as below:

"We wish to point out that comparatively few changes have been made. Our principal aim was to harmonize so that the wording, where proper to be so, was the same in the three degrees.

"The most important changes were made in the Third Degree.

"We have added a short clause in the obligation, touching 'Clandestine Masons', to meet a condition which has been referred to in the reports of a number of Past Grand Masters, and which is a growing menace in this Jurisdiction."

Later on the report was adopted, and the ritual as revised will be the "Standard Arizona Masonic Ritual." The following passages are taken from the Grand Orator's address:

"I would say, therefore, that Masonry—the philosophy—is based upon the theory that all men are brothers. But a mere belief or sentiment is of little value unless it shapes or controls our conduct. As has been stated so often, there may be a world of Masonic sentiment, but little or no Masonry. So Masonry, to be of practical benefit, must be more than an ideal. It must be a motive power, working for the realization of that idea.

"But independence and liberty are not synonymous. There may be individual liberty without independence. On the other hand, in many independent countries, of which Russia and Italy are outstanding examples, there is no liberty of speech, of act or of conscience. Consequently, individual rights and liberties must be protected, not only from the despotism of the Crown or Church, but from the despotism of the crowd—or the mob—which may be even more despotic."

ARKANSAS—1928

H. D. Bowers, Grand Master

Forty-one requests for dispensations to confer the

degrees upon applicants who were physically disqualified were refused. Concerning the Pension Fund, we find this in the Grand Master's Address:

"In this connection I wish there was some way to curb the utter selfishness of some of our Lodges in requesting pensions for those who are not really entitled to them. It is my candid belief that no relief should be granted to any Lodge for the benefit of any of its members, except where the Lodge actually contributes one dollar for every dollar received from this Grand Lodge in relief funds. Such requirement would eliminate all such abuses of this Pension Fund."

Later on a provision for an assessment of fifty cents per capita to be paid along with the annual dues became law, and is expected to provide the necessary amount.

It is complained that organizations whose prerequisite for membership is based on membership in our Fraternity sometimes turn their meetings into objectionable orgies. It is justly pointed out that in the long run Freemasonry bears the brunt of the criticism on such affairs, even though the meetings be held by those other bodies. An edict was therefore issued ordering that in such cases, after due proof has been presented to his Lodge, the sentence be indefinite suspension of a brother who misconducts himself at such a meeting. Another edict provides that no Lodge under this Grand Lodge may charge as dues less than two dollars annually.

The following, taken from the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, describes what we believe to be advisable in reviewing the Proceedings of sister Grand Lodges:

"I think that where one of our sister Jurisdictions does anything in their Grand Lodge sessions that is different from the way we do things, and any laws or decisions that vary from our laws, these should be called to the attention of our Grand Lodge through the report of this committee. In this way we may profit by their efficiency and improve our own practices."

The Committee also gives figures which they culled

from other Jurisdictions of the United States, showing that the loss between initiation and raising is considerably greater where no real educational programme is in force, than where a well-defined system of Masonic education is in use. Some such system had been presented to the Lodges for consideration during the year, but not finding favor, it was rejected. The Jurisdiction is being divided into twenty-six instead of eighteen Districts as formerly, the number of District Deputy Grand Masters being correspondingly increased.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—1928

Frank S. McKee, Grand Master

The Grand Master's Address gives in detail information concerning his labors throughout the year. Commenting on the condition of Masonry, he commends the attitude of the brethren toward both ritualistic work and relief:

"Reviewing the condition of the Craft throughout the Province, one is impressed with the dignity and sincerity with which the ritual work is exemplified. Laudable as this may be, it is more gratifying to note the many instances of Masonic works of Charity and Bevolence which are carried on by the Constituent Lodges without ostentation, and which clearly emphasize that the Lodges are endeavoring to practice the true spirit of Freemasonry.

"The danger we have to guard against is that of lowering the bars of our fraternal standards and allowing a large penetration of individuals with neither the training nor inclination along the lines of our ancient landmarks—men who are not first 'made Masons in their hearts'. Our duty today is to perpetuate the traditions and ideals of the Craft, and hand on our Institution to succeeding generations with a greater conception of Brotherhood, and a more profound veneration of the Great Architect of the Universe.

"For failing to practice the true principles of Freemasonry, and after conducting their Lodge in a manner that was speedily becoming a scandal and a disgrace to the Craft, I instructed my District Deputy to take up the Warrant and bring in the books of Gothic Lodge, No. 111. Full particulars have been furnished

the proper Committee, and their report will be submitted at the proper time."

The Annual Report contains a complete roster for all Lodges in the Jurisdiction. Though this is not generally the custom, yet it is one that may have considerable immediate merit and have a historical significance for the future.

The reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters occupy fifty-two pages of the volume and contain a great amount of detailed information concerning each Constituent Lodge that has not only an informational value, but as well, that must act as a stimulant upon local Lodges.

The Report of the Benevolent Fund shows a total investment of \$284,473.45, with a net income of \$10,879.24, and an expenditure during the year of \$13,013.33 for relief. There has been paid out of this account \$81,826.06 during the past five years. This is evidence of the valuable effort that is being made by the brethren of British Columbia to meet the relief needs for the dependents of Masons.

After a survey of the Jurisdiction and consultation with the present and Immediate Past Deputy Grand Masters of the various Masonic Districts, the Committee on the Redistribution of Districts submitted a report which was held over for more mature consideration.

Number of Lodges	115
Total Membership	14,517
Net Gain	335
	D. S. W.

CALIFORNIA—1928

WILL H. FISCHER, Grand Master

The Grand Master believes that owing to the large size of this Jurisdiction, the Deputy Grand Master and

the Grand Wardens should share in the active duties of the supreme office, as this would not only be of great assistance to the Grand Master, but would be training and experience for them as they advance.

The appropriation made for an educational programme in 1917 was \$500, and has kept on increasing till it has reached \$10,000 a year for the last three years. At least one "programme" a month, the presentation of which is mandatory, is sent to each Lodge, and these papers are used as bases for addresses. The subjects are varied, such as "Radium and Rays", "The Legend of Hiram", etc.

There are apparently two or three clandestine Grand Lodges in California, and the Grand Master advises that an investigation be made and a report with recommendations as to procedure be presented at the next Annual Communication.

The Grand Lecturer reports that at the request of the Grand Master he made a trip to Hawaii, and visited the different islands on which there are Lodges.

Fraternal recognition was granted to the Grand Lodge National of Sweden, the Grand Lodge of Norway, the Grand Lodge of Denmark, and the Grand Lodge of the Serbs, Croates and Slovenes, Jugo-Slavia.

Automatic expulsion is provided for in the case of a brother who has been convicted of "a crime classified as a felony under the law, and be imprisoned in pursuance thereof; or shall be adjudged an habitual criminal". Before expulsion comes into force, he is given an opportunity, if he so desires, to have a trial in his Lodge. Acquittal in the courts or refusal of a Grand Jury to indict, is no bar to a Masonic trial.

A revised funeral service is in course of preparation, and two suggested forms are being considered.

CANADA—1928

Hon. John S. Martin, Grand Master

The Grand Master is finding the system of District Meetings a very satisfactory one. M.W. Bro. Rowland established the practice, and M.W. Bro. Martin in continuing it has found that it has reduced the number of meetings necessary at least one-half. The average attendance at those meetings was between 400 and 500. The work of the District Deputy Grand Masters receives great praise. In the course of his address he says:

“During the month of June I was able to make fraternal visits to our daughter Jurisdictions of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, both Provinces having received their first Warrants from the Grand Lodge of Canada in Ontario.

“It was a very successful meeting, and I was much impressed by the quiet dignity of their sessions, by the splendid spirit of harmony which prevailed, and by the large number of Past Grand Masters who were present. There are no less than twenty-six Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, which is in marked contrast to the small number of Past Grand Masters of our Grand Lodge—seven at present. Manitoba must be a very healthy Province.”

This Jurisdiction has 563 Lodges and approximately 114,000 members. Seven hundred and sixty-five dispensations were issued during the year, and more than half of those were for the purpose of attending divine service in Masonic clothing. The Grand Master is enthusiastic about this practice, so much so, that he recommends that no fee be charged for such dispensations. This view was concurred in by the Committee on the Grand Master’s Address, and their report was adopted.

The Board on the Condition of Masonry is taking up seriously the matters of attendance at regular meetings and non-payment of dues. They present an interesting report from which much in addition to the paragraph below might well be quoted:

“Why did they not attend Lodge? Why did they not pay

their dues? The poor Secretary generally bears the brunt of the blame for not collecting the dues promptly. There is no doubt that a good, live Secretary can largely overcome the difficulty by applying to the finances of the Lodge the same sound methods that a good business man would apply to the collection of small debts. But the Secretary should not bear the whole burden."

The reports of the District Deputies show careful work, and many useful suggestions are made, as for instance:

"1st. Attendance—There is considerable room for improvement which can be accomplished to a very large extent by limiting the lateness of the closing hour in the banquet room, which should not be later than 11.30, and to this end work in the Lodge room should be so arranged that the candidate be admitted not later than 8.30.

"2nd. Ventilation and Temperature of Lodge Rooms—This is a very important factor, but very much neglected in nearly all Lodge rooms.

"We fear that the following criticism from Peterborough District might truly be made in respect to most of our Lodge rooms: 'In most of our Lodges heating and ventilating are serious problems. Many brethren want to come to Lodge, but hesitate on account of unnecessary warmth and bad ventilation.' This subject might well engage the attention of all District Deputies during the coming year.

"The character of the evening's entertainment should be above reproach. Almost always it is so.

"A Master's ability can be very readily judged by the manner in which he carries out the details that go to make up an evening's work. No time should be wasted. Loss of time is an evidence of lack of preparation. Nothing of dignity, nothing of impressiveness is lost by avoiding unnecessary delay.

"It is the usual custom of the brethren to come to Lodge without their Masonic aprons, and to wear a cotton one provided by the Lodge. I have been impressing upon the brethren of the Eastern District that a cotton apron is not Masonic clothing. If we receive, we must teach them so that they may assimilate our teaching, fostering in them the practice of right thinking and right doing."

COLORADO—1928

John Andrew, Grand Master

Up till the present Communication three dollars per

day had been allowed as expenses to representatives of Lodges attending Grand Lodge, but the Grand Master recommends that this allowance be raised to five dollars, as the former amount was "decidedly inadequate to provide comfortable living for those who are required to attend the Communications". This was acted on promptly by the Committee on Finance and by Grand Lodge, and made to apply to this Communication. Actual travelling expenses are also paid.

So-called Masonic insurance companies come in for some attention as representatives call on newly made Master Masons telling them that it is their duty to carry insurance, and often intimating that their companies are connected with the Fraternity. Even Masters and Secretaries are accused of participating in this. The Grand Master offered a resolution regarding the matter as follows:

"This Grand Lodge has in no manner authorized, and is in no way responsible for the creation of insurance companies or mutual benefit associations, called Masonic, or any other company or association that insures, or agrees to pay benefits to, Masons exclusively; nor is this Grand Lodge, or any Lodge under its Jurisdiction, legally or morally responsible for any agreement, contract or other act of any such companies or association. Any Mason who shall make representations in conflict with the above declaration, to induce any person to join or become interested in any such company or association, is hereby declared to be guilty of un-Masonic conduct."

Annual dues vary from \$2 to \$12, and fees for degrees from \$50 to \$150. Fifteen Lodges charge \$100, and four \$150.

A request for Fraternal recognition was received from Grand Lodge of Vienna, but the Committee on Correspondence requested further time for investigation.

Two of the decisions given during the year were:

"That a receipt of a Lodge under seal and signed by the Secretary for dues paid to end of the fiscal year of the Lodge is equivalent and is a certificate of good standing;

"That it is the prerogative of a Worshipful Master of a Lodge to exclude from the ballot, and, if necessary, from the Lodge room, a member who has been judicially declared mentally incompetent and for whom a guardian has been appointed."

From the report of the Lodge Study Club Committee discussing Masonic education:

"We find a great variety of ideas extant as to the meaning of the term. One Jurisdiction believes its mission to be the sending out of a corps of speakers all over the state, speaking along Masonic and citizenship lines; another state would have its membership more fully informed as to the spiritual meaning of the ritual; still another trots out the well worn 'Ancient Landmarks' as its guide post to Masonic education."

As a result of the Committee's investigations they reached the following conclusion:

"1. That, as a rule, those who are paid by Grand Lodges to conduct Masonic educational work report that their respective plans are successful.

"2. That, generally speaking, those Masonic authorities who are not directly in charge of Masonic educational work, or who if they are connected with it, receive no remuneration for their services in such capacity, are not optimistic in regard to the various plans used, some admitting practically total failure to achieve satisfactory results. For example, an officer of one of the large Grand Lodges stated in substance: 'We have spent nearly one hundred thousand dollars in this work without any results.'"

The report, however, concludes with some good practical advice, and recommends methods of education in Freemasonry which some other Jurisdictions have already put in practice.

CONNECTICUT—1928

Theodore Foster, Grand Master

In speaking of large sums of money unnecessarily (in some cases) expended on new Masonic Temples, the Grand Master says:

"Brethren, when there is so much want and real need in the

world, Masonry teaches us that our first duty—our happiness—lies in relief; let us think well before investing too heavily in material things."

Then goes on to say:

"We have many Lodges with too large a membership. As a result the members are not in close, personal touch with their fellows—are strangers to many."

On looking up the returns from Constituent Lodges, we find that there are 41 Lodges with memberships of from 400 to nearly 1,600. The Grand Master recommends "Trial by Commission" to relieve individual Lodges of embarrassment and bring about a more strict observance of Masonic law. During this year all Lodges will be given an opportunity to study this proposition and to express their opinions.

Amongst the revised regulations the following are found:

"No more than one degree shall be conferred upon the same candidate at one and the same communication, or within twenty-four hours of the preceding degree, except by dispensation of the Grand Master, on good cause shown.

"Sec. 20. The American flag shall be displayed in the Grand East at every session of the Grand Lodge, from the opening to the closing thereof.

"The raising of money for Masonic purposes by means of lotteries, raffling or games of chance is improper and un-Masonic."

The reviews of other Grand Jurisdictions is written in an interesting manner.

DELAWARE—1928

Weldon C. Waples, Grand Master

The Grand Master expressed the opinion that:

"This Jurisdiction is not justified in retaining its membership in this Association for the following reasons: First—I do not find a very strong sentiment in favor of the Association in this

Jurisdiction. Second—I do not believe we receive value for the amount of money it costs for membership.

"I therefore recommend that we drop our membership in the Masonic Service Association of the United States."

The Committee on Jurisprudence approved the above, and intimated their regret that they felt it their duty to do so. When the recommendation was brought before Grand Lodge, it was not approved, and an appropriation of \$100 was made for use of the Masonic Service Committee.

There are 22 Lodges and 6,058 Master Masons. Each Lodge was visited by the Grand Master, and 19 out of 22 were represented at Grand Lodge.

Delaware, though a small Jurisdiction, has a Masonic Home with twenty-two guests. The year's income for the Home was \$25,327, and the expenses \$18,830.

The following is law in this Jurisdiction:

"Any Lodge failing to make its annual return and pay its annual dues within the time hereinbefore specified, shall pay an additional sum equal to two per centum of the dues, for the current or general fund of the Grand Lodge, for each week or fraction thereof that these returns are not made after the specified time, and until the meeting of the Grand Lodge."

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—1928

James T. Gibbs, Grand Master

This resolution which had been laid over from a previous Communication was adopted:

"Whereas it has been customary in Grand Lodge elections to collect ballots on all officers before any one officer has been elected, therefore be it

"Resolved that the Grand Lodge record itself as favoring a change in the method of balloting used in the past several elections, to the extent that any group of ballots collected at one time shall not include more than one office of the progressive line."

A recommendation which did not receive approval was that a brother before being installed should produce a certificate of proficiency in the work.

A change made last May allows seven instead of five to receive their degrees at the same time, the result of which was that only eight dispensations to confer degrees on more than the constitutional number of candidates were issued during the last six months, whilst twenty-six had been granted during the previous six months. This Jurisdiction, though small in area, is the most densely populated Masonically of any in the country, the membership being 23,281, and the combined assets of the Lodges exceed \$1,000,000. The request of the Grand Lodge of Santo Domingo for Fraternal recognition was refused, but that of the Grand Lodge of Czecho-Slovakia was approved by the Committee and by Grand Lodge.

A brother of this Jurisdiction may change his membership from one Lodge to another without first receiving a dimit. He receives a certificate of good standing from his first Lodge, which accompanies his application to the second Lodge. If elected, the Secretary of his new Lodge notifies his former Lodge, and his membership in it then ceases; but if not elected, he retains his membership in his first Lodge.

The Board of Relief reports that out of fifty-six applicants three proved to be rank imposters, and a number of others could not establish a Masonic status; also that over 83 per cent. of the amount expended was returned by the applicants or their Lodges. Application for aid from relief funds by imposters seems to occur all over the world. One of the Lodges opened a Special Communication and attended the funeral of a brother, but did not conduct the burial service. It was held by the Grand Master, and approved, that this should not have been done, as it is not the practice of Freemasonry merely to swell processions.

ENGLAND—1928

H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Grand Master

The Mission to India, Burma and Ceylon, headed by the Deputy Grand Master Bro. Lord Cornwallis, presents a full and interesting report of their work. Probably the best way to give an idea of their experiences will be by quoting a few items from their Report and Journal:

"We have seen as many as five volumes of the Sacred Law in use at one and the same time, and brethren of the following among other races, taken at random—Europeans, Parsis, Chinese, Burmese, Hindus, Americans, Ceylonese, Punjabs, Mohammedans, Sikhs, Armenians, Greeks, Bengalis, Jews, Arcanese, Madrassis, etc., participating in the Ceremonies. The Brotherhood of Man, under such circumstances, becomes a living reality.

"Many of the little differences that we noted are due to the close association of the English and Scotch Constitutions, and here we should like to acknowledge the fraternal welcome given to us everywhere by the members of the Scottish and Irish Constitutions, and especially by the former.

"We venture to suggest that much benefit would result to the three Constitutions if some form of 'clearing house' of Masonic information could be devised.

"Secunderabad.—Waltair was left the next morning and a 20-hour run brought the Deputation to Secunderabad on the 30th, on the evening of which day W. Bro. Hunt gave a most interesting illustrated lecture concerning the rock-hewn temples at Ajunta and Ellora. These Brahmin temples, carved out of the living rock with the most consummate skill and engineering knowledge, the earlier ones date back to 200 B.C., gave distinct indications of Masonic tendencies (of which India, as a whole, would appear to be a very fruitful area of research.)

"On February 22nd, the Deputation attended a meeting of Lodge Victoria in Burma, two initiations being done (a Burmese and a Chinese brother), the work being faultlessly performed by the Master, himself a Chinese brother.

"At the subsequent dinner, the Master stated that the Lodge included amongst its members no less than seventeen separate nationalities and represented seven different religions. Following the dinner, the ladies were invited to join the brethren and their wives to witness a Pwe, or open-air performance of national dances, juggling, etc."

A Special Committee on the Masonic Peace Memorial (new Temple) presents a report, and the following will be of particular interest to those who know London: The main entrance, with its surmounting tower facing towards, but separated by buildings from Long Acre, made evident the desirability of securing, if possible, the removal of those intervening buildings in order to open up a direct approach from Long Acre. The negotiations were successful, and all the buildings from the corner of Great Queen Street, Wild Street and Drury Lane will eventually be removed. Thus from the new main entrance a vista will be obtained down the centre of Long Acre.

A resolution passed by the Grand Lodge on March 1st, 1916, reads thus:

"That in order to prevent the peace and harmony of the Craft being disturbed, it is necessary that all brethren of German, Austrian, Hungarian or Turkish birth, should not, during the continuance of the war, and until Grand Lodge, after the treaty of peace has been signed, shall otherwise determine, attend any meeting of the Grand Lodge, or of a private Lodge, or any other Masonic meeting, and that such brethren be, and they are hereby required by Grand Lodge to abstain from such attendance."

On December 5th, 1928, a proviso was added to this after some discussion. The principal objection to the proposed proviso was that Private Lodges should not be given the opportunity to decide their course in this matter, but that Grand Lodge should make a decision for all. The arguments for the resolution as first offered were particularly good and prevailed. Below are printed the two main sections of the resolution as adopted; other sections provide for some details:

"1. That, after the 31st December, 1928, the said resolution shall not apply to any meeting of Grand Lodge, or of a Private Lodge or to any other Masonic meeting. Except that in the case of the meetings of a Private Lodge the said resolution shall continue to apply thereto in the case of any member or members of that Lodge who was or were by the said resolution precluded from attending the meetings thereof, unless and until that Lodge passes a resolution in accordance with paragraph 2 of this resolu-

tion permitting him or them (either individually or collectively) to attend such meetings.

"2. (a) That any Private Lodge may, by a resolution passed by three-fourths of the members present and voting by ballot at any regular meeting thereof, and after due notice of such proposed resolution has been given to every member on the summons for that meeting, resolve that brethren or any individual brother or brothers of the Lodge of German, Austrian, Hungarian, or Turkish birth be permitted to attend the meetings of that Lodge, and take part in the proceedings thereof, and resume full membership thereof."

The United Grand Lodge has led the way, though as the Pro Grand Master told the brethren:

"I have learned the opinion of the greatest German Masonic authorities to the effect that the three Old Prussian Grand Lodges in Berlin, which are still considering their relations which they severed with the Grand Lodges of former enemy countries, including the United Grand Lodge of England, and are still not willing to undertake to re-establish relationship."

Secretaries and Alimoners of Lodges are warned against giving relief without first making thorough enquiries to persons who travel over the country, stating that they are poor or distressed Free Masons, as it has been found that many of them are either imposters or undeserving.

"Brethren are earnestly besought not to purchase, or in any way assist the sale and circulation of catchpenny pamphlets professing to reveal the secrets of Freemasonry which, for the purpose of personal gain, have of late been freely hawked at London street corners. Several copies of the latest specimen of these works have reached the Grand Secretary; and this, like all its predecessors for the past 200 years, is a palpable imposture, written by one unpossessed of inside knowledge of the Craft."

Every brother is urged to prevent profit accruing to anyone by the sale of those pamphlets, and the matter is thus left in the hands of the brethren as a whole.

FLORIDA—1928

Benj. E. Dyson, Grand Master

Although the District Deputy Grand Master system

is found to work well here on the whole, the Grand Master touches a weak spot in it when he says:

"The old custom of having the representatives of the various Districts recommend some brother for appointment as District Deputy Grand Master, because of their desire to pass the honors around among the various Lodges composing the District, should be abated, and the recommendation made should be on account of his fitness, personality and knowledge in the work, as well as that of the laws governing the Fraternity.

A very large proportion of the correspondence and work done by the Grand Master could be eliminated if competent men were made District Deputies to whom ordinary questions should be referred."

He recommends that on account of the advancement in the building of good roads, the number of Districts be decreased at least 50%. This, he explains, would the better enable the Grand Master to select District Deputies competent to discharge their duties.

In the report of Re-Districting Committee we find:

"Being the particular personal representatives of the Grand Master, the District Deputies should be selected by him, and he should assign to each Deputy such particular Lodges as he may deem advisable to serve as his representative. This plan would eliminate the possibility of local politics, or any prejudice that might exist in particular Lodges, and would serve to place in this important position the men who would best serve the interests of the Craft. We, therefore, recommend that the incoming Grand Master on the day following the close of the Grand Lodge, call to his assistance such men as many be familiar with the several sections of the State and select District Deputies not to exceed twenty in the entire State, or as many less than that number as he may deem advisable, and assign to these men such Lodges without regard to geographical lines as he may deem proper and advisable."

There were formerly thirty-three districts, which number was finally reduced to fifteen.

The Grand Master also recommended that representation in Grand Lodge should be in accordance with the numerical strength of the Lodge rather than as it is at present, the same for each, and that Lodges with less

than fifty members should consolidate with others. Neither of those suggestions was adopted.

A request for a dispensation to attend church in regalia was refused.

INDIANA—1928

Obie J. Smith, Grand Master

The Most Worshipful Grand Master comments upon the splendid Masonic spirit prevailing throughout the Grand Jurisdiction as follows:

"It has been my pleasure to visit over fifty Lodges and attend a number of Masonic gatherings, and it has been an inspiration to me to look down into the faces of those assembled and sense the feeling of friendship and affection they have for each other."

Commenting upon the attempt to capitalize Masonry in aid of private business, he concludes with these words:

"I wish to charge the Masters here assembled to in no way permit the roster of your membership to be furnished to any one for commercial purposes, or in any way imply that your Lodge or the Grand Lodge is sponsoring any business."

It is interesting to note that the Masonic Home in this Grand Jurisdiction had enrolled 190 adults and 218 children; further, that in conjunction with the Home is a thoroughly up-to-date school which provides elementary, secondary and vocational training for the children of the Home.

The failure of Kentucky Grand Lodge to take action concerning the admission to Masonry within her Grand Domain of one who had formerly been refused that privilege within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Indiana led to very definite action on the part of the latter. The report of the Committee on Jurisprudence concerning this matter is in part as follows:

"That all Masonic intercourse and relations between the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of

the State of Indiana to and with the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Kentucky cease and be determined, and so stand and continue, until such time that reparation for grievances is made in all things satisfactory in the judgment of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Indiana."

The Grand Jurisdiction has a total of 559 Lodges with a combined membership of 129,071, being an increase of 1,156 over that of the previous year. Seven hundred and seventy-six Master Masons attended the Grand Lodge sessions, and it is interesting to note that mileage and per diem allowance was granted each. A further statistical report shows that there are 15,840 Masonic Lodges within the United States, with a total membership of 3,245,837, an increase of 46,579 for the year. It also shows 1,327 Lodges, and a membership of 198,900 in Canada during the same period.

D. S. W.

IOWA—1928

David R. Tripp, Grand Master

Another voluminous but well organized Report of 614 pages with an excellent index. The Report opens with an able Address by the Grand Master; an Address made by one who has led in the field of finance, and who has formed the habit of carefully scrutinizing the expenditure of all public monies:

"A day spent in idleness can never be recalled; a dollar unwiseley spent today, or lost, can never be saved. Let each of us begin today to do our work, and do it well, and spend our money, or that in our charge, judiciously and economically, as this is the road to success."

The Report closes with a beautiful afterword by the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, P.G.M. Louis Block:

"It will do us precious little good to erect a mighty and magnificent material structure unless we cause to reign within its lofty walls, both abundantly and abidingly, that great spirit of magnanimity that alone is worthy the name of Masonry.

"Perhaps Paul was not a Mason, yet he was a great mystic, and the two are not far apart.

" 'One building through the ages stands,
Unshaken by the wrecker, Time,
Eternal, upright, square, sublime,
A holy house not made with hands.' "

The Grand Master suggests that improved Lodge work and less financial expenditure on the social would leave more lasting impressions on candidates for Masonry and permit local Lodges to carry their Fraternal responsibilities over a broader field of activity.

As to Grand Lodge: "Is there any good reason why we should see how much we can spend just because the Grand Lodge is liberal and it is the other fellow's money we are using? The same economy should be practised in Grand Lodge matters that we find advantageous in our home Lodges and in our private business."

Iowa has been stressing "Grand Lodge Schools" of instruction with a marked degree of success. Three hundred and twenty-three such schools have already been held. The Grand Lodge Library contains 2,093 books, 1951 periodicals and 598 Proceedings, all catalogued and under the direction of a Librarian.

Permanent Fund Securities amount to \$519,144.51. Grand Lodge supports a sanitarium and, in addition, grants relief to special needy cases.

Sanitarium Maintenance	\$38,541.48
Relief to 204 Individuals	47,306.69
Number of Active Lodges	557
Decrease in Membership	55
Present Membership, May 31, 1928	86,486
	D. S. W.

KANSAS—1929

Ferris M. Hill, Grand Master

Bro. Albert K. Wilson, who has served in Free-

masonry for forty-seven years, for thirty-five of which he was Grand Secretary of this Jurisdiction, has retired with the title of Grand Secretary Emeritus. He has now taken up the task of compiling a history of Masonry in Kansas. In presenting a report regarding the getting together of the necessary material, he tells us:

"In this work the writer has discovered that most of the pioneers in Masonry were likewise pioneers and leading citizens in that section of the country which was afterwards designated as Kansas. Up to the time of writing this report sufficient information has been secured from which a very complete history of the early experiences of our brethren and their relations to the establishment of the first Lodges can be intelligently compiled. There still is a vast amount of research work to be accomplished as the time for securing reliable information is very limited, and particularly when we take into consideration that the most authentic and reliable information must be secured from the few who are now left to tell the story."

The Masonic library contains very many books, including some which are now almost unobtainable, and the museum contains many interesting articles. Both the library and museum are housed in a fine fireproof building. The system of District Deputies and District Meetings is in use, the 447 Lodges being divided into 76 Districts. On account of tie votes in some Lodges it was found advisable to make this ruling:

"When the vote taken by a Lodge on a proposed amendment to the Constitution is a tie, the Master shall have one additional or casting vote."

An the following answer was given to the question:

"Can a Lodge legally confer the Second or Third Degree on a brother at a Special Communication called in the afternoon, just 28 days following the conferral of the preceding degree, which degree was conferred in the evening?"

"No. The degree cannot be legally conferred at that time as the statutory time (28 days) would not expire until the hour indicated by the minutes of the communication at which the preceding degree was conferred."

After the Report of Proceedings there is printed the

Code of Laws relating to the Grand Lodge and to the Lodges, decisions of Grand Masters, different lists of landmarks, the fifteen points said to have been made at the meeting in York in 926 A.D., and other things of interest.

KENTUCKY—1928

Hanson Peterson, Grand Master

For the purpose of ascertaining the condition of the Craft in this Jurisdiction, the Grand Master caused blanks to be prepared and appointed a number of Inspectors to report on the Lodges throughout the State, and the result on the whole was gratifying to him. Amongst other things mentioned in the reports are the annual dues. Three hundred and eight Lodges charge \$5.00 or more, thirty-six charge only \$3.00, and the remainder charge between \$3.00 and \$5.00. Several requests for permission to solicit funds from the Craft were refused; also, as a result of complaints, watchfulness as to whether or not an applicant's residence is within the Jurisdiction of the Lodge petitioned is urged.

The Grand Master recommended that the Jurisdiction be divided into 38 Districts, and that one Lodge in each District be designated to exemplify degrees at a meeting attended if possible by the Grand Master.

The Committee on Credentials reported that 41 brethren were present who wished to represent their Lodges and draw mileage and per diem, without proper authority to do so, and recommended that each Lodge so doing should be fined \$3.00 for each offence. The Committee on Jurisprudence, however, believed that if the Constitution is enforced in its present form, and mileage and per diem denied those not having proper credentials, the trouble would soon be overcome.

Fraternal recognition was extended to the Grand

Lodges of Poland, The Netherlands and Chili. The proposal to strike out a section of the Constitution and substitute the following was adopted:

“(a) Any brother may affiliate with more than one Lodge at the same time.

“(b) Suspension or expulsion from any Lodge with which a brother is affiliated shall suspend or expel him from every Lodge with which he may have affiliated in this Jurisdiction.”

LOUISANA—1929

James H. Rowland, Grand Master

The Grand Master recommended that when a brother pays his dues his Lodge should, in addition to his receipt, furnish him with a card showing his good standing for the current year, without which card he would not be able to visit any Lodge in Louisiana. Further, that the same rule should apply to brethren of foreign Jurisdictions, who would not be allowed to visit Lodges in this Jurisdiction without producing the current year's card. The Committee on Jurisprudence, in making their report, which was adopted, had this to say about it:

“Your Committee, after giving the matter thorough and due consideration, does not believe that this recommendation would be wise, if applied to the Lodges and membership in the State of Louisiana, but it would be wise to require such a card of good standing to be presented by any visiting Mason from some other Jurisdiction which makes a similar requirement necessary of our brethren in order to visit their Lodge.”

Amongst the dispensations granted were some to confer the three degrees at the same time on certain candidates who were mariners. The following was one of the rulings:

“I received a request, asking whether a brother suspended for non-payment of dues, and while suspended should pass away, should be entitled to a Masonic funeral?”

My answer: Yes, the brother should be entitled to a Masonic funeral, should the family request it.

Another concerned a candidate who had received the E.A. Degree, but who after that, was objected to on account of not being able to read or write the English language. It was ruled that the brother should be stopped until he should be able to speak that language well enough to understand our mysteries. In regard to this the Jurisprudence Committee's opinion is:

"This decision is correct as David R. Graham Lodge is an English-speaking Lodge and works in the English language. The opinion of your Committee is that the ruling is not correct in general terms, but we believe that 'the applicant must be able to read and write the language in which the Lodge confers the degrees and does its work so as to be able to understand our mysteries,' as we have several Lodges in this Grand Lodge that work and transact their business in a foreign language."

Fraternal recognition was extended to the Grand Lodge of Spain.

The following is from the review of the Manitoba Proceedings:

"The Jurisdiction is divided into twelve Masonic Districts and from the reports of the District Deputies actual results are accomplished. This suggests that consideration might be given to consolidation of Districts in Louisiana, now that universal good roads and automobile transportation have so materially shortened distances."

MAINE—1928

David L. Wilson, Grand Master

Regarding a matter which engages the attention of many Jurisdictions, the Grand Master speaks plainly:

"It would surely be a Masonic offence for any group of the brethren to hold a political caucus and call it a Masonic caucus. You may say to any of the brethren, who ought to know, that the moment they attempt to ally the Lodge with any political movement, or with any other organization whatever, they will get into trouble with the Grand Lodge of Maine. I cannot speak too

emphatically about this. We will not have the Masonic Fraternity tied to the tail of the kite of any organization."

The Grand Secretary, like many others holding that office, has trouble in getting Secretaries of Lodges to send in their returns at the proper time. The following might also be taken note of by Secretaries:

"It is very confusing in the Grand Secretary's office where the parties are not known, to have a candidate initiated and returns made of the raising of 'Carl C. Jones,' then three or four years later to have a 'C. Claude Jones' suspended N.P.D., and a 'K. C. Jones' reinstated the next year, the spelling of the brother's first name having been changed by himself or by the new Secretary from Carl to Karl."

It is reported that a large percentage of the Lodges own their halls; also that the annual dues vary from \$1. to \$10. Five Lodges of Instruction were held by the Grand Lecturer, whose duties apparently are to give instruction in the work of conferring degrees.

The following passage from the Foreword of the Report on Correspondence is well worth quoting:

"On this subject of caring for dependents I have found two widely separated lines of thought and action. One seems to follow the example of the Good Samaritan. Finding the man who needs help and giving it to him directly, quietly, among familiar surroundings and in the company of old friends and associates. The other is institutional in character. The dependent is carefully investigated by a Board. If his needs are established, he is removed from his former location and placed with others to be cared for, according to certain established rules, in a place open to visitors who are seeking a certain emotional thrill. Five years reading reports of Masonic Home Boards has not converted me to the latter method."

He also says: "Somebody has prepared a table, which, I hope, is wrong." The table in question shows that it costs \$5,000 to feed, clothe and shelter each inmate of the Masonic Homes throughout United States.

MARYLAND—1928

Warren S. Seipp, Grand Master

The Board of Relief report having had a busy six months, 110 cases, 40 of which were sick in hospitals from other Jurisdictions, claiming their attention.

In connection with Masonic education, a number of "Masoniscope" lectures are available for use of the Lodges. The brethren are urged to make use of these illustrated lectures, the equipment for which is in charge of the Grand Lodge Library. There are also books of clippings taken from Masonic magazines which can be used by those who wish to give talks on subjects connected with Freemasonry in their Lodges.

Requests for recognition from the following Grand Lodges were refused: Grand Orient of Portugal, Grand Lodge of Chili, National Grand Lodge of Santa Domingo, National Grand Lodge of Roumania, Czechoslovak National Grand Lodge, Grand Lodge of Vienna, and the Grand Lodge of the Serbs, Croates and Slovenes.

Like some other Committees, this one finds it impossible to understand the Masonic situation in Egypt, therefore its recommendation, which was adopted, was that recognition be withdrawn from the National Grand Lodge of Egypt.

The account given below is of a "Husking Party", the corn evidently being grown in aid of funds which are being collected to build a Home:

"We had seventy acres of corn that needed husking, and we thought it would be a wonderful thing if we could get at least one hundred men to go into the field and give us a day's work for the cause. Our plans were made; the idea met with such favor that it passed very rapidly our conception of a husking party and developed into a real gathering of fraternal spirits; the husking was a secondary consideration. Twelve hundred and twenty men were in the field that day, and in three hours the husking was over. Not having a crib large enough to hold the quantity of corn we expected, the preceding week we built a

double crib to hold 400 barrels, and this with the space at our disposal housed the crop of 600 barrels. Notwithstanding the snow in the early morning, the men worked with a will; made their own fun, chased the rabbits, enjoyed the barbecue, secured their prizes, were paid their penny, which was specially struck for the occasion, movies were made, and they went home in the early afternoon, having had one of the happiest days of their experience. The Lodge that won the prize for being first on the grounds in the morning had 21 men in the field at 1.30 a.m. They husked by lantern and flashlight. Another Lodge sent men over 200 miles. Everybody voted it one of the greatest days and one of the biggest advertising stunts that we have ever managed. Incidentally, the cost of the whole affair was very little in excess of what the actual cost of husking would have been. It may also be of interest to know that quite a number of ears of corn were sold for \$1.00 apiece as souvenirs; one red ear brought \$10.00, was resold for \$5.00, and then one grain from this same ear brought another \$10.00."

This section of the Constitution was amended by striking out the words, "in the City of Baltimore":

"In no case shall a degree be conferred by any Lodge upon a credit, and no Lodge in the City of Baltimore shall act on any petition for initiation, unless the whole amount to be paid for the three degrees accompanies the petition."

An elaborate questionnaire to be sent to each applicant for the degrees had been prepared and submitted to the Lodges, but was unanimously rejected.

An annual dinner is held for the Grand Lodge Officers and the Masters and Secretaries of the Lodges for the purposes of discussion and forming friendships, and this event is spoken highly of by the Grand Master.

MEXICO (York Grand Lodge of)—1928

James F. Berry, Grand Master.

During the year Fraternal recognitions were received from the Grand Lodges of Indiana, Kentucky, Vermont, Texas and Louisiana, and the Grand Lecturer tells us:

"Our future is brighter and better than ever before in the

history of our Grand Lodge. Our Masonic foundation is firmer than ever; our fraternal relations with other Grand Jurisdictions is growing rapidly."

On another much discussed matter he says:

"I refer to the rapid and unhealthy growth of the parasitic vines which are strangling and sapping the vitality of the Parent Tree. I mean the so-called higher bodies in their relation to the blue Lodges. Daily we notice a feeble but yet determined effort of a number of the Grand Lodges to curtail this rush through the three degrees with the sole view of gaining admission into the higher bodies and the shrine. This leads to a pronounced neglect of the blue Lodges."

He also points out that the wearing of emblems can be and sometimes is carried to extreme, and that the member displaying the largest amount of Masonic jewellery is too often a Mason in name only.

There are thirteen Lodges in this Jurisdiction, which are divided into twelve Districts, only District No. 1 having two Lodges in it. That this Grand Jurisdiction is fighting against difficulties is shown by the following extracts from District Deputies' reports:

"We have little or no material to draw from, but notwithstanding this condition have increased our membership by one.

"Albert Pike Lodge, No. 7, has a total membership of fifteen, eight of which now reside in Puebla, the remaining seven being scattered throughout the globe. The attendance at our Communications is generally six or seven besides visiting brethren, and the work is kept up by instruction in the degrees.

"Esperanza Lodge, No. 11, of El Oro, still exists, although there are only three members in the district and four Brother Masons belonging to other Lodges, so we therefore continue to hold meetings.

"The membership of Chichindaro is widely scattered. The Lodge has lost no members, and has gained one by reinstatement during the last year. The membership now stands at thirteen.

"Also several events have been of great help and inspiration to us the past year and should be noted. One of them is the visit of the General Grand High Priest and the General Grand Secretary, Brothers Davis and Conover, of the General Grand Chapter of the U.S.A., and the General Grand Master, Brother Hart, of

the General Grand Council. The other event was the visit of the Team of the Tampico Council, No. 1, to confer the degrees upon a class of fifteen."

The Foreign Correspondence concludes with nine pages reviewing the doings of the Grand Chapter R.A.M., Supreme Council A.A.S.R., and the General Grand Council R. and S. Masters.

MICHIGAN—1928

George W. Graves, Grand Master

The Proceedings are recorded in a volume of 1,205 pages, 95 of which are devoted to the Grand Master's Address. The Report resembles our Parliamentary "Hansard" in that all discussion that takes place on the floor of Grand Lodge is recorded as well as all reports and extensive statistical data. In his opening remarks, the Grand Master pictures Grand Lodge as the great clearing house of Masonry, and exhorts the brethren to avail themselves of the opportunity to make their contribution.

"The Proceedings of the Grand Lodge are books that make history and are the building stones of this fraternity. It should not be forgotten that the results of all deliberations are usually satisfying in that it gives a comprehensive picture of characters under stress, which would otherwise be lacking. There are few men in this fraternity who draw back from real action or shuffle out of responsibility, for once the principles are known the Grand Lodge will proceed in its own way to apply them as they may view the subject."

The Grand Master and the immediate Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada and the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec were received and welcomed at the opening session.

Eight new Lodges were constituted and thirteen Masonic Temples dedicated during the year.

Though 44 out of 48 Grand Masters of the United

States attended the Conference in Washington, D.C., the Grand Master is very emphatic in his opinion "that no Grand Jurisdiction . . . will ever release its sovereignty or permit another Jurisdiction to interfere, regulate or change its Constitution", etc.

The safeguarding of Masonic rites, emblems and the good name of the Order from use by other than Masons appears to be a pertinent question in Michigan as elsewhere.

Fifty-nine representatives appointed by the Grand Master assisted in the supervision of local Lodges. The Grand Master recommends that "the Grand Lodge adopts the District Deputy system . . ." Further, "that such District Deputies be appointed by the Grand Master for the period of his term".

The Report on Foreign Correspondence covers 570 pages. Seven pages are devoted to the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. The Grand Chaplain, R.W. Bro. William H. Gallagher, who is also on the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in this Report completes his fifth term in that capacity. His summary is in itself a reasonably complete record of the doings in the realm of Freemasonry. Moreover, his style of writing is such that one passes in delightful review through the many Grand Domains and closes the book with the thought that one who delights to read and write has been penning the picture of Masonry.

Lodges	499
Membership	150,650
Net Increase in Membership....	1,432
	D. S. W.

MINNESOTA—1929

Sam E. Erickson, Grand Master

It having been found that deviations from the re-

cognized "Work" of the Jurisdiction were occurring in some Lodges the matter had been referred to the Jurisprudence, who report on it in part thus:

"To permit a Master of any of our Lodges to add to or interpolate in our work any portion of any work which he may believe to be a part of the ritualistic work of another Grand Lodge might and undoubtedly would result in confusion and interfere with the work of the Board of Custodians and undermine to some extent the stability of our own work. We believe that if there are any modifications or additions to be made to our own work the matter may be safely left in the hands of the Board of Custodians to be disposed of in accordance with our Grand Lodge General Regulations."

In another of their reports it appears that the By-laws of one Lodge provided that every member who shall have paid dues for twenty-five consecutive years shall automatically become a life member. This, however, was shown to be contrary to the General Regulations, which authorize a Lodge to grant life memberships only by unanimous ballot of the Lodge, a life membership therefore cannot be created automatically.

A paragraph like the following taken from the Grand Master's Address occurs in many Reports of Proceedings: "Many requests for opinions on minor questions have been received. A great many of them were answered by reference to the Code."

An unusual meeting called "Past Grand Masters' Night" was held in Duluth. Fourteen P.G.M.'s were present, and the M.M. Degree was exemplified by some of them. Unpaid dues in Constituent Lodges is a serious question here, the total being \$114,438.

MISSISSIPPI—1929

Thomas E. Pegram, Grand Master

The Grand Lodge dues are \$2.25 per member, and this pays the expenses and per diem of representatives

attending Grand Lodge, the salaries of the Grand Secretary and three assistants, the upkeep of the Masonic Homes, relief to Master Masons, and stationery for all the Lodges. A Special Committee recommended that all stationery supplies be prepared by the Grand Secretary and the blanks sold to Lodges at actual cost, but a motion to that effect did not receive the approval of Grand Lodge. Several Lodges make a practice of presenting a copy of Street's Symbolism of the Three Degrees to newly-made Master Masons.

The quotation below is from the Grand Master's Address:

"On invitation of the Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of Mississippi O. E. S., it was my happy privilege to attend the 22nd Annual Session of that Grand Body, which convened in the City of Jackson on April 18th. Among the number of visitations made during the year, this was the most memorable and delightful that I have experienced."

He issued one Edict in the course of the year, which was as follows:

"It has come to the attention of the Grand Master that perhaps the harmony of some Lodges is being disturbed by political communications or discussions in open Lodges.

"It is un-Masonic for any political communication, any circular, or paper, which refers directly or indirectly to politics, political party, or any candidate for office, to be read in open Lodge. It is likewise un-Masonic for any political discussion to take place in open Lodge, or for any Lodge to pass any resolution touching political views or candidates.

"It is therefore ordered by the undersigned Grand Master that no political paper, letter, or communication be read in open Lodge; that no political discussion of any kind take place in open Lodge, and that no Lodge pass or promulgate any resolution political in its nature.

"THOMAS E. PEGRAM,
"Grand Master."

The Report of the Law Committee rightly draws attention to a practice, which should not exist, namely, that of the sending of questions to it by individual members of Lodges. In discussing the matter, it says:

"We regret to state that a few of these questions, however, indicated in their language and manner of statement a degree of feeling that ought not to have existed on the part of the member propounding the question. The questions really ought to come from the Lodge, or in some cases from the Master of the Lodge, though Lodge committees have in instances propounded proper questions to this Committee. However, any Lodge Committee in doubt in any matter of Masonic law can always properly confer with the Master of the Lodge, and request him to propound or have the Lodge to propound a question to the Law Committee. A question framed by the Master or by the Lodge is more likely to be fairly and clearly stated and more fully stated than if it is framed by an individual."

MONTANA—1928

William J. Marshall, Grand Master

From the Grand Master's address:

"It has been argued that if the various Grand Masonic Bodies would be brought together during the same week all Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction would be much benefitted. I therefore recommend that the subject of "The Masonic Week" be referred to a special committee for consideration and recommendation."

The Committee reported that they were in hearty accord with the idea of a Masonic Week, and add:

"We, however, adhere to the principle that the Blue Lodge is the foundation of Masonry, and we believe that one of the first objects of the so-called higher degrees should be the assistance and support of the Blue Lodge. We believe that their meeting with us during the same week would help to bring the bodies closer together, help us co-operate to a greater degree, and thereby build a greater Masonry for Montana."

When discussing the always interesting question of Masonic education, the Grand Master says:

Now, brethren, what is Masonry for? Is it to make members and to get their money? Heaven forbid. The function of Masonry is to make men better. It should help us to better understand our full and just relation to our God, our country, our neighbor and to ourselves."

He points out that the Jurisdiction is a large one, and as it has no District Deputy system, there is a want

of contact between Grand Lodge and the Subordinate Lodges. He, therefore, called a meeting of the Grand Lodge officers, divided the State into Districts, and arranged for one of those officers, either elective or appointive, to take charge of educational work and make visits in each district.

The following unusual question was referred to him for decision:

"1. Under date of December 27, 1927, I received a communication, in which was asked this question: 'Can a suspended brother be reinstated after his death?' To this I rendered the following decision: A suspended brother may be reinstated after death provided that the suspended brother shall have fulfilled all the requirements of the law for reinstatement previous to his death. Approved."

In his concluding remarks we find:

"If the democratic idea is to continue to prevail in this country, we Masons must be alert concerning the ingress of those who favor autocracy in the affairs of life."

But just who should be excluded does not seem clear.

The following resolution was adopted as a "Standing Resolution":

Resolved, that it shall be a Masonic offense for any Master Mason raised in the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to petition any Royal Arch Chapter or Scottish Rite Body in Montana, until he shall have passed successfully an examination of the lecture of the Third Degree."

It was also provided that if the date of election of Lodge officers falls on Christmas or Christmas Eve, or on Monday, December 26, the election shall be held at the regular meeting immediately preceding that date.

NEBRASKA—1928

Albert R. Davis, Grand Master

Speaking of the presentation of fifty-year badges to

a number of the brethren, the Grand Master says:

"I have also during the year had the opportunity of observing the effect of the presentations of this badge. It is an honor among Masons to be coveted and it is so considered among the brethren. The originating of this plan and carrying it into effect among the Craft is not only commendable, but properly emphasizes the services of the individual brethren, and is an inspiration to the younger Masons."

The following little incident taken from the address is interesting and very human:

"We visited the brother in his little cabin. We also visited the doctor who had attended him whenever it was necessary, and this brother expressed his reluctance to leave his home, and that if he could be paid monthly twenty or twenty-five dollars, he could live in comfort. His physician advised that the old gentleman be permitted to remain in his cabin. It appeared to both the Grand Secretary and myself that this was the thing that should be done; that with the old gentleman's gardening and such an allowance, he would live in comparative comfort and amid the environment that had become almost a part of life itself to him through a residence of some thirty years."

The Grand Master pointed out that for seventy-one years Grand Masters had been making decisions which have been recorded in the Annual Proceedings, and recommended that a digest of those be made and printed for the use of Grand Lodge and Constituent Lodges. Later on this suggestion was adopted, and should prove very useful.

The Grand Senior and Junior Wardens presented a Bible, square and compasses to the Grand Lodge. The quotation below is from the Grand Orator's address:

Because Masonry has reached an enviable position we are not justified in being satisfied with its achievements and resting on its accomplishments. What the Lodge is today, is largely what our predecessors made it; what it will be in the future depends in a great degree upon us. 'To preserve the reputation of the fraternity unsullied must be our constant care.' There is an obligation of high service resting on every true Mason from which he cannot escape without being false to an exalted trust."

NEVADA—1928

M.W. Bro. V. M. Henderson, Grand Master

Fraternal greetings were read from M.W. Bro. Ovas, Grand Secretary, of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. The Grand Master's Address gives a comprehensive view of the activities and efforts of Grand Lodge officers, and the progress of Masonry during the year.

"STATE OF THE CRAFT

"I am very pleased to report that complete goodwill and fraternalism exists between the Lodges of our Jurisdiction. In a good many instances there have been interchanges of meetings between Lodges, and the visitors have been invited to do degree work. I commend this practice very highly and sincerely hope that it will continue because it undoubtedly promotes Masonic acquaintance and good-fellowship. Without exception, the financial condition of our Lodges is good. The books of our Treasurers and Secretaries are being kept strictly up to date in a thoroughly business-like manner, and the records of every Lodge are being properly preserved. Several of the Lodges are redecorating their Lodge rooms, and in one or two instances new Masonic Temples are contemplated. The officers of all the Lodges are trying hard to perfect themselves in our Uniform Work, and, with the aid of a little coaching, I feel certain that it will be accomplished in the near future. Taking everything into consideration, Masonry in our Jurisdiction is in a very flourishing condition."

Among other things the Grand Master recommended that the Grand Lodge Committee on History be discharged and that the appointive office of Grand Historian be created by the Grand Lodge.

Report of the Committee on the History of Masonry

"Your Committee on History, to which was given the labor of collecting and properly editing "the History of this Grand Lodge and all subordinate Lodges within the jurisdiction of Nevada," submits herewith what must be regarded as a partial report. To compile the history of the Subordinate Lodges alone will require several years if the work is to be done in complete form, which is the only form in which it would be of value."

Worshipful Grand Orator, Bro. Robert H. Parker,

gave an excellent address on the purpose of Masonry, the duty each member owes to the Craft; and the appeal that Masonry should make to the minds of its followers:

“Such is the study of Masonry. You can always see something new; each one sees something different, and, in a great measure, therein lies its attraction to the minds of its followers. Today the trend in respect to both institutions is to take the sacrifices of our forefathers a little too lightly. We are too prone to wear our Masonic pins, to tell the world we are Masons, and not perform enough Masonic work to justify our existence as Masons, nor as Masons, perform the duties we should as citizens.”

The Committee on Jurisprudence disapproved of the move to substitute appointive for elective officers for several of the Grand Lodge Officers:

“We disapprove of the proposed amendment for the reason that we deem it contrary to the spirit of this Grand Lodge, in that it fetters its choice in selecting men to fill elective positions, and we believe that in many cases it will deprive the Grand Lodge of the services of brethren who are distinguished for their character, ability, Masonic knowledge and zeal for the institution of Masonry.”

The Annual Report devotes fifteen pages to a brief but interesting and instructive review of the history of Masonry within the state. The report also contains a complete roster for the membership of all lodges within the Jurisdiction.

One hundred and forty-one pages are devoted to Fraternal Correspondence. The volume also contains a well organized index.

Number of Lodges	23
Membership	2,890
Net Gain	64

D. S. W.

NEW BRUNSWICK—1927

James Vroom, Grand Master

In discussing the question of physical qualifications we find the opinion of the Grand Master expressed thus:—

“The subject that has given me most concern is the recent decision of Grand Lodge to admit maimed applicants under certain conditions. In this decision Grand Lodge is supreme. Regardless of my own views, I have tried loyally to carry out its intentions as far as they were clear to me. I am inclined to think that the qualification of physical perfection as a Masonic requirement was originally symbolical, not practical; and was of great value as a symbol. We do far worse when we ignore mental defects in an applicant which render him incapable of learning the Art, or when choosing an officer we overlook a serious lack of education or training that will keep him from being an honor to the Fraternity.”

Then regarding the Order of the Eastern Star which he tells us originated in Mississippi about seventy-five years ago, he says:—

“I share the conviction of my immediate predecessor that it should be and remain an organization exclusively for women. This is no strange or ill-considered opinion. As we were told two years ago, it has been adopted by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Nova Scotia; the three from which nearly all the older Lodges in this Jurisdiction derive their authority, and whose decisions, therefore, we are bound to look upon with the greatest respect.”

In connection with the above, the report on the Address reads:—

“With it, as an Order, separate and apart from Masonry, we can find no fault, but when it seeks to become an affiliate or appendage of Masonry, it is time that we took action to keep our position and purposes intact.”

The Committee on Foreign Relations explains this Grand Lodge's attitude towards other Grand Lodges thus:—

“The subject of Grand Lodge recognition is perhaps never

urgent, except where negative action is required. The rule which has always been tacitly accepted in this Jurisdiction is that where but one Grand Lodge exists in a country, or where two or more Grand Lodges claim concurrent Jurisdiction, such Grand Lodge or Grand Lodges be considered as recognized by us unless our Grand Lodge has definitely refused recognition. Where there are two or more Grand Lodges with conflicting claims, we do not feel called upon to decide between them."

M.W. Bro. Vroom was re-elected as Grand Master.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—1928

M.W. Bro. J. Melvin Dresser, Grand Master

The Grand Master's Address reviews in detail the happenings and progress of the year.

The Masonic Home conducted by the Grand Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction appears to be one of the outstanding triumphs of this Grand Lodge, and the Grand Master sums up its achievement in the following meaningful words:—

"My Brethren,—Neither bricks and mortar, nor wood and stone, nor all the sundry materials, of which an edifice is composed, nor furniture, nor papered walls suffice to make a home. Home is where the heart is; where love holds sway. Because of the love and devotion displayed by those who have had its affairs in charge, and the love and devotion you have displayed in providing the shelter, the necessities and comforts for its guests, I feel that we may truly call this a real Home."

Special attention is given to Lodges of Instruction, six of which were held during the year in as many centres.

As in Manitoba, the reports of District Deputy Grand Masters are included in the Annual Report. These reports, however, are more than general impressions containing as they do detailed information concerning constituent lodges.

The net gain in membership amounted to one hun-

dred and twenty in spite of the last call being sounded for two hundred and fifty-six, three of whom were Past Grand Masters. Very fittingly the Grand Master touched upon this great loss to the Craft.

“While we deeply lament the severance of these earthly ties, we rejoice in that faith which enables us to look confidently forward to a glad reunion with these, our brethren, in ‘that land where all are equal.’ We, who have been accustomed to fore-gather at these annual communications of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, during the past two decades and more, view with saddened hearts the empty chairs within our circle.”

SUMMARY

Number of Lodges on roll	80
Number of Lodges under dispensations	1
Number of Lodges making annual returns	81
Number of Lodges represented at semi-annual communication	63
Number of Lodges represented at annual communication	78
Membership, 1927	15,440
Admitted to membership	547
Restored	18
Dimitted	112
Died	256
Membership suspended, N. P. D.	72
Initiated	437
Membership, 1928	15,560
Increase in membership	120

D. S. W.

NEW MEXICO—1928

John S. Mactavish, Grand Master

Congratulations on attaining your year of jubilee, brethren. The Grand Master was asked for a number of rulings and decisions, of which the following are two:—

“Query: Is there a law forbidding entertainments, such as card parties, in the Masonic Lodge room?

“Held: A Lodge cannot permit anyone to use the conse-

crated and dedicated Lodge room for purposes outside of its legitimate uses, nor can a Grand Master grant this by dispensation.

"Query: Will any objection be raised if our new Lodge building is one-story and we meet on the ground floor?

"Held: It is essential that all Lodge halls as of today should be on at least the second floor of a building, and I would not approve having your Lodge room on the ground floor."

In regard to the latter, the Committee on the Address expressed partiality for the word "preferable" instead of "essential."

The net gain for the year is not large, but there is evidence of conscientious investigations and careful guarding of the Order.

This jurisdiction takes a keen interest in the work of relief for sufferers from tuberculosis as is shown below:—

"New Mexico thus took the leadership and the initiative in Masonic tubercular work, actuated by a sincere belief in the ideals and teachings of the Order, confident that the Craft would rise to the great opportunity for real service and a practical application of Masonic principles.

"The Tuberculosis Sanatorium Association of New Mexico is, perhaps, the most significant movement before the Masonic public, and unless we are very much mistaken, this enterprise will soon capture the imagination of the entire Fraternity. If it succeeds in doing this we may look for the largest outburst of philanthropy the world has ever known in this or any other country."

Mention is made of sixteen jurisdictions in the United States which are assisting in this work.

The Grand Master speaks highly of the work of his District Deputy Grand Masters, for instance:—

"Our District Deputy Grand Masters have set a high standard of excellence in the service rendered by them during the past year, giving their time and efforts freely and unselfishly to the duties and responsibilities of their office."

NEW SOUTH WALES—1928

John Goulston, Grand Master

The Jurisdiction is divided into fifty-seven districts, each being supervised by an Inspector of Workings who reports to the Grand Lodge quarterly and those officers are apparently very conscientious in the discharge of their duties.

This paragraph is quoted from one of the addresses of the Grand Master:—

“Innovations.—There is a tendency in some Lodges to introduce an innovation that is not in accord with the principles of our institution. I have noticed at some supper tables—and it seems to be a growing practice—that printed paper serviettes, with the letter “G” enclosed inside the Square and Compasses, are being used. The letter “G” is of too great a significance to Masons to be used for serviette purposes, and such serviettes must not be used in future.”

And at another time he requested the brethren not to leave the Lodge Room immediately they had recorded their votes, a custom which had been too prevalent in former years and which was undignified.

It is worth nothing, it not being our custom here, that in the course of the year 147 dispensations for “Initiation of a Lewis” were issued.

It was brought to the notice of Grand Lodge that letters had appeared in the public press and some received by the Grand Master and Grand Secretary stating that this Grand Lodge is in possession of actual cash amounting to 270,000 pounds, whereas the fact is that the only cast asset available for ordinary expenditure is the Grand Lodge fund. Of the amount mentioned above, 80,000 pounds covers the value of the Masonic Schools buildings, etc., 81,000 is the amount of the Benevolence Fund which can only be used for the one purpose and nearly 68,000 comprises the value of the Hall and furnishings.

In the Report of the Board of General Purposes we find accounts of generous donations to a considerable number of different hospitals, etc.

A letter having been received from the York Grand Lodge of Mexico asking for fraternal recognition, the Board recommended that the request be acceded to, and that recognition be withdrawn from the Grand Lodge of Valle de Mexico. When the motion to adopt the recommendation was put it was pointed out that this would be following the lead of the United Grand Lodge of England. The motion was adopted.

Much valuable information can be gathered from the Review of the Proceedings of sister jurisdictions, which is written in a particular interesting manner.

NEW YORK—1928

Harold J. Richardson, Grand Master

To escape from overlapping and duplication of work, the office of Grand Librarian and a number of committees were formed into the "Board of General Activities." Good results such as increased efficiency and financial economics are already noticeable. The Board consists of nine members who must have a considerable amount of work to get through.

Whilst speaking highly of the work of the majority of their Masonic Clubs, the Grand Master gives a word of caution in connection with them:—

"There are a few of them which seem to have forgotten their moral obligations to that Fraternity without which they would have no field for action nor excuse for being. In some cases this conduct can be described only as a deliberate trafficking in the name and good-will of Masonry for purposes or activities that Masonry has always condemned. Such a thing cannot, of course, be permitted."

The following is also an interesting item in his address:—

"This Grand Lodge went on record at the last Annual Communication to the effect that it gives fraternal recognition to the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, and the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, as belonging to and being a legitimate part of the regular and acknowledged whole body of Freemasonry. This Grand Lodge shall, I have no doubt, always continue to dwell in harmony and accord with those Masonic Bodies. I have no thought of raising any question as to this relationship between them and us.

"At the same time I believe it is well for this Grand Lodge to affirm and reaffirm the fact, established now for two centuries, that Grand Lodges, and Grand Lodges alone, have complete, and final, and exclusive sovereignty over the three degrees, with all the rights, prerogatives and privileges appertaining thereto."

The Syrian Lodges holding charters under this Grand Body have applied for permission to form a Grand Lodge of their own.

Several requests for fraternal recognition have been received in the course of the year and the following were granted:—National Grand Lodge of France, National Grand Lodge of Czecho-Slovakia, Grand Lodge of Spain. As regards the Grand Lodge of the Dominican Republic, mutual intervisitation is authorized until the question of official recognition shall have been finally decided. Some other requests for recognition were not so fortunate.

A very fine account is given of a mission overseas undertaken during the year by the Grand Master and three other brethren. It is impossible here to give even a general idea of their journeys except that many Grand Jurisdictions in and beyond Europe were visited. The story of the laying of the foundation stone of the new Temple (Masonic Peace Memorial) in London is well told, but the only quotation in connection with it which space allows will be:—

"I would give you the complete picture of the ceremony, but it is beyond my power to describe all the dignity and majesty, so characteristic of English Freemasonry, which pervaded it. Albert Hall was filled to capacity, some nine thousand brothers being present. We from New York were awed and inspired by its every detail. The impressiveness of the entrance of the Grand Master and his staff was exceeded only by their rendition of the Ceremonial. The gold-embroidered collars, cuffs and aprons of the officers added picturesqueness. There were gathered under one roof thousands of Masons, all seemingly dressed alike. No sign of levity could be detected anywhere. It was serious business performed by serious-minded men whose perceptions of the motif that underlay the undertaking at hand could not be mistaken. Royalty, Nobility, Army, Navy, the Clergy, and the Laity, all banded together as equals sponsoring a great cause, functioning under the banner of Freemasonry as Brothers in a common cause."

NORTH CAROLINA—1928

J. H. Anderson, Grand Master.

It is the law in this jurisdiction that if a lodge has not been represented at Grand Lodge for three successive years it may be deprived of its charter. Eighty-one lodges had been delinquent in this regard and were called to account by the Grand Master. On promising to exercise greater observance of the law in future they were given an opportunity by extension of time for one year, to save their charters.

As a rule it has been found that the District Deputy Grand Master System works well, but the Grand Master was disappointed in the results obtained from a number of them:—

"Very few realize the dignity and importance of the office. They are the personal representatives of the Grand Master, and as such clothed with all the authority in their respective districts and entitled to all the honors of the office."

From the report on Masonic Education we learn that the Educational Field Secretary travelled over 17,000 miles by car, and held 450 educational meetings.

An unsuccessful attempt was made to have the

minimum fee of \$35.00 for the degrees, reduced to \$25.00.

The Manitoba Proceedings were not reviewed and we tender our sympathy to Bro. J. Edward Allen on account of his illness which was the cause. He was interested in our Canadian Diamond Jubilee and would have liked to discuss it at length.

A regulation was adopted that:—

“Fallbearers.—The active pallbearers must be Masons; honorary bearers may be other than Masons.”

Fraternal recognition was granted to the National Grand Lodge of France.

NORTH CAROLINA—1929

R. C. Dunn, Grand Master.

The Grand Master had occasion to refer to a point which other Grand Masters have sometimes found it advisable to mention:—

“In the very beginning permit me to dispel a belief that has gained some prevalence in Masonic circles in North Carolina, viz., that the affairs of the Grand Lodge are in the hands of a privileged few, and that none others need apply for a voice in the conduct of its business. Brethren, this is your Grand Lodge.”

He also recommended a revision of the Burial Service by a committee to be appointed by the incoming Grand Master.

It is pointed out in regard to Masonic educational work that lectures which go over the heads of a majority of the brethren are not the kind required, and that what is most desirable is that Freemasons should be taught the great lessons and truths of Freemasonry. The code does not require one who has been made a member of a lodge to sign the by-laws, because he

would be signing something which he knows nothing about as the by-laws are not read to him.

It was recommended that the office of Grand Pursuivant be abolished in 1930 and that of Grand Sword bearer in 1931, the reason given being that the Grand Lodge line is too long and should be shortened. It seems to be customary to raise a brother year after year for ten years from Junior Grand Steward to Grand Master.

The following is from the Grand Master regarding the use of authorized ciphers:—

“I believe that if a brother can more readily learn the work,—yea if he can learn a better work by the use of cipher than he can from the oral instruction he would receive, if he can learn that work in his leisure moments in home or office rather than at the convenience of his instructor, then I am in favor of putting it within the power of that man to learn the work that way.

“I realize that there are objections to a cipher of the ritualistic work; I know that there is much to be said in favor of the plan. However, I know that this proposition is sooner or later coming before the Grand Lodge for decision, and there is no need for any further delay. I therefore recommend that the incoming Grand Master appoint a Committee of three to investigate and report upon the advisability of the preparation of such a cipher by the Grand Lodge, and, if favorable thereto, their recommendations with respect to its preparation and preservation.”

NORTH DAKOTA—1928

M.W. Bro. Walter Henry Murfin, Grand Master.

The inspiring Address of the Grand Master would indicate that Masonry is in a flourishing condition within this Jurisdiction.

The corner stones of two new Masonic Temples were laid and five Masonic Temples consecrated and dedicated during the year, indicating a decided tend-

ency for Masons to possess their own place of meeting together in lodge.

Speaking of the problem of black-balling candidates the Grand Master expresses himself in a very decided and common-sense manner:

"Several times during the year I have had called to my attention cases where Lodges felt that they were being injured by the existence in their midsts of chronic black-ballers. This is a condition which constantly bobs up to vex officers, but is a question which must be handled with a great deal of care if we expect to accomplish more good than harm. A brother's right to cast a ballot as his judgment dictates must not in any circumstances be questioned nor attempts be made to discover who is doing the rejecting. I have nothing but contempt for anyone who misuses his privileges of the ballot, either with unwarranted black-balling or undue leniency in failing to reject at the proper time, but the secrecy of the ballot must, above all things, be kept inviolate. In each individual case coming to my notice, I have counseled the utmost tact and diplomacy in handling the matter, and I think generally that the difficulties soon clear away and that time and patience accomplish much more than precipitate action."

Touching upon the ever present financial problem, both in relation to relief and its management within the local lodge the Grand Master again expresses himself in no uncertain manner:

"A problem that will have to be solved in the immediate future and without shirking, is the question of relief to our distressed brothers and members of their families. We cannot dodge the issue, but when any of those who have first claim upon us is in need, the individual Lodge must realize that the obligation to provide the necessary relief is paramount and cannot be lightly ignored. There seems to be absolutely no excuse for a Lodge of any age being unable to look after its own, and it will always find the Grand Lodge Relief Fund Trustees glad to meet them more than half way, but the good name of Masonry, as well as our plain duty and privilege, cannot be further flaunted by specious excuses. In my opinion, Lodges which have not already done so, should take action without delay to budget their expenses, making ample provision for the building up of a relief fund so that when the call comes, as it is sure to come in every Lodge, we shall not suffer the humiliation that has been ours all too frequently in the past. If I understand the attitude of this body aright, we do not wish to be compelled to legislate for the Con-

stituent Lodges, but a word of warning must be sounded that if Lodges persistently neglect or refuse to set their houses in order, this Grand Lodge will be under the necessity of doing it for them. We have been engaged in the work of service and education for a number of years in a most commendable way, but it is well to realize that our first duty is to those who are near and dear to us, and that further procrastination will not be tolerated."

Steps were taken to organize a Masonic Foundation which would in a larger way care for the relief of needy Masons and their dependents.

Special attention is given to instruction in Masonic work, and during the year the Grand Lecturer held thirty-two meetings at which one hundred lodges were represented.

Masonic lodges appear to be indirectly showing active interest in the work of the young people of their various communities, thus extending the ideals of masonry to the wider field of service and that at a point in the life of the community where value is certain to accrue.

Total Number of Lodges 129

Total Membership 15,459

Net Gain 52

D. S. W.

OHIO—1928

B. Frank Thomas, Grand Master.

In fifty per cent. of the lodges in this jurisdiction, a Bible is presented to each candidate when he becomes a Master Mason. The Grand Master says the ceremony of presentation is impressive and the practice most commendable.

Seeking for a corrective for the trouble of unpaid dues he gives this as his opinion:—

"I believe the remedy in a measure for the undesirable condition regarding suspensions for non-payment of dues and reinstatements could be largely remedied by using care in the selection of Secretaries who are in sympathy with and interested in the work. A good, live, efficient, affable Secretary is one of the strongest assets of any Subordinate Lodge, and it is the responsibility of its membership to see that the duties of that office are discharged by those who have the ability to carry on this most commendable work."

During the year a number of commercial circulars purporting to be endorsed by members of the Fraternity, or using the name and number of a lodge, were brought to the notice of the Grand Master. He naturally resents this very much and quotes from a decision of 1895 that:—

"The Master of a Lodge should not, nor should any officer, endorse officially circular letters or recommendations to be used for business purposes, nor should he permit the seal of the Lodge to be attached to such letter or recommendation. Freemasonry has a higher calling than assisting in the sale of one's commodities."

And recommends that this rule be extended to include members as well as officers; also that the use of such words as Mason, Masonic, etc., to promote or aid any business or commercial enterprise, be forbidden.

One lodge did not send in returns and Grand Dues within the time limit and by its failure to do so it deprived its representative of his mileage and per diem. It is provided that four cents per mile coming from and the same returning to the place where the lodge is located shall be paid to the ranking representative, also eight dollars for each day's attendance at Grand Lodge.

Reports show that there are 980 brethren who have been members of their respective lodges for fifty years or more. It was recommended by a Special Committee that Veterans' medals be designed and made, to be presented to those entitled to them. This was approved.

PANAMA—1928

D. Leslie Sasso, Grand Master.

As the business parts of the Proceedings are printed in Spanish, I regret that it is impossible for me to review them.

Three addresses are in English, one dealing with the "Fiesta de la Raza," one an address to Bro. Lindbergh on the occasion of his visit to Panama in his plane, and one to the Grand Master of Massachusetts when visiting this Grand Lodge. Regarding the first named we find:—

"As Masons, and members of an ancient Order who labor for the advent of that day when all mankind, irrespective of race or creed, will be united in a true spirit of Love and Brotherhood, we heartily congratulate our friends of the Latin Race for the establishment of such a noble institution, as in that move, and in such uplifting sentiments, we see the realization of the grand ideal for the accomplishment of which we Masons toil and labor."

Quotation from the second:—

"I now have pleasure in asking your acceptance, as a small token of our admiration, on your inspiring exploits, the greatest of this age, your conquest of the air, of an emblematical globe, which depicts the numerous stages of your flights, first across the wide Atlantic, and then your Washington to Panama route."

And from the third:—

"This evening I am highly honored in being privileged to preside at this special session of the Grand Lodge, to express our joy, in having made your acquaintance, and thank you for giving us of your time to attend this reunion, which permits me the pleasure of introducing you to every member of this Grand Lodge, and the opportunity to hand you, as a small token of our fraternal esteem, this Gavel, which has been carved from the native woods of the forests of this country."

PHILLIPINE ISLANDS—1928

Joseph H. Schmidt, Grand Master.

The Report of Proceedings from this Grand Body is always interesting. We have only to look back a very few years to remind ourselves of the difficulties it was facing, in order to realize how they are being overcome.

In 1924 for instance, we found the following:—
“The Grand Master is compelled to report that very little has been accomplished in eradicating the evil of clandestine Masonry,.....certain labor organizations were using our emblems, we have tried to have these organizations refrain from this practice, but without success.”

Then this year:—

“Neither clandestine Masonry nor labor organizations using our insignia have given us any trouble this year. The ranks of the clandestine Masons are torn by strife and discord, their activities are practically nil, and we confidently hope that in due time, they will vanish, like many others who have gone that way before. Pure gold stands the test of time, while tinsel soon tarnishes and disappears.”

When this Grand Lodge was formed in 1912, there was in Manila a lodge holding its charter under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, which by express permission still exists under that Grand Body. Unfortunately friction has arisen between that lodge and the Grand Lodge of the Islands, which we sincerely hope will be amicably arranged.

From the paragraph headed “Our relations with appendant Orders,” the following is worth taking note of:—

“We are exceptionally fortunate in this Grand Jurisdiction as regards the relations between the Grand Lodge and Symbolic Masonry in general on the one hand, and the so-called “Higher Bodies” on the other. Absolute loyalty to Ancient Craft Masonry

and its governing Grand Body are the rules here. There are no complaints from either side regarding interference or undue influence on the part of the other, and the active Scottish and York Rite workers are as active in the Symbolic Lodge as in the Higher Bodies. Not only the Grand Lodge, but many Subordinate Lodges have received substantial moral and material support from these appendant bodies."

The clipping below is part of a circular sent by the Grand Master to the lodges.

"Smoking should, however, be absolutely prohibited during the opening and closing ceremonies, and the actual degree work which, for the purposes of the edict mentioned, should not be considered to include the lectures. Smoking may, therefore, be allowed while the Lodge is transacting business at its stated meetings, while the lectures of the three degrees are being delivered, and while the Lodge is at refreshment."

There are 101 lodges in this jurisdiction, and as they are scattered over fifteen islands much difficulty is experienced in visiting them.

The Grand Master believes that a Grand Lecturer who is really suited to the position can be chosen by appointment better than by election in Grand Lodge, and gives what look like good reasons for so thinking. The change was not made but has been taken into consideration.

The Grand Lecturer concludes his report with the words:—

"Our degree work, according to my observation, should be characterized by sincerity of purpose, and less by perfervid oratory. The latter style may be in place in a political meeting, but it seems out of place where men are taught to keep their passions within due bounds, and where truth, justice and reason prevail."

From the review of Manitoba the quotation below is of interest:—

"In Manitoba, nearly all the Lodges attend church in regalia, but before doing so, they must first secure a dispensation from the Grand Master. Masons should always be found in church. We believe that attending in a body does not serve any good purpose to the Fraternity as a whole."

A good many of us here agree with the sentiment expressed.

QUEBEC—1928

Our sympathy is extended to this Grand Lodge on account of the death while in office of the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Walter Charles Hagar. At an Emergent Communication held for that purpose, his funeral was very largely attended by brethren of the jurisdiction.

The Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Henry Willis, presided over the Annual Communication and delivered the address. He was later on elected to the Grand East.

When speaking of time and money spent by many on things which do not contribute to the betterment of the individual or of the community, he says:—

“There are many men, and I have no doubt you have met some, who have said with regard to Freemasonry: ‘I have no time for anything like that’, and consequently it falls among the discarded things in their life, and yet when you look to see what things do occupy their time you wonder what is their rule of life or why they could turn Freemasonry out of their thoughts.”

Another quotation from his address:—

“The question with us is not, ‘How ancient is it? or What are its claims?’ but ‘Does it meet the needs of the day, my needs, your needs, everybody’s needs?’ And if it fails here nothing else can make it acceptable. Will Masonry survive this test? Does it meet the needs of our day? The world has a right to know this of it. Is it worth while carrying out elaborate programmes and receiving and spending money? The world asks these questions and we ought to be able to answer.

“We shall hold it fast because it is good, not because ‘Ancient and Honorable’ only, but ‘good’; good for each individual member, good for the community, good for the nation.”

Amongst the dispensations granted there are twelve

for the wearing of regalia at social functions. When delivering his address in 1924, the then Grand Master, M.W. Bro. Shatford had the following to say on that subject:—"The parade of Masonic insignia is a very delicate matter and to be indulged in on rare occasions. We are apt to cheapen the order by too frequent an exhibition of our uniform..... It is symbolic, and as the meaning of the symbol is hidden from the profane, where is the advantage of our constant exhibition of signs and jewels."

QUEENSLAND—1927-1928

C. Stumm, Grand Master.

In this jurisdiction there is a "Permission to ballot" committee before whom all applications come. This committee held twenty-five meetings in the course of the year and 1533 requests from lodges for permission to ballot on applicants were examined.

Numbers of applications were found to be filled in incorrectly and forty-one were eventually rejected. This is in addition to lodge Enquiry Committees.

The foundation stone of a new Masonic Temple was laid in Brisbane on Anzac Day, the 25th of April, the date of the landing in Gallipoli of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

The Grand Master says it promises to be a worthy monument to the union of Freemasonry in Queensland and a fitting memorial and tribute to the sailors and soldiers who sacrificed so much during the war. Queensland contributed 57,705 men of which number 12,421 lost their lives and 28,123 were wounded.

The union referred to was the uniting into one Grand Lodge of a number of lodges under the jurisdictions of England, Scotland and Ireland. The stone

was donated by nine lodges, the three oldest of each of those three Constitutions.

The Grand Master presented a list of those recommended to have Past Grand Rank conferred upon them, brethern who have worked well and long for the Craft. This received the approval and confirmation of Grand Lodge.

It is an instruction from Grand Lodge that dispensations to initiate candidates who are maimed or incapacitated as a result of the war shall be issued without fee.

SASKATCHEWAN—1928

M.W. Bro. Rev. Canon J. K. Irwin, Grand Master.

M.W. Bro. J. S. Martin, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada in Ontario was duly received at the opening session.

The Grand Master in a most inspiring and comprehensive address reviewed the progress of Masonry during the year; dwelt upon the possibilities it possessed for making worthwhile contributions to the larger citizenship of mankind; and urged the Brethren to exemplify its tenets and principals in the daily routine of life and before all men.

Among others the following rulings of the Grand Master are well worthy of consideration:

"(1) Qu'Appelle Valley Lodge, No. 4, asked for a ruling or the following: A member of a Character Committee refused to sign a report on the ground that he had information which prevented him from recommending an applicant to the Lodge, and he refused to divulge to other members of the Committee the names of his informants or the nature of the charges. The question submitted was whether or not the Committee as a whole should be in possession of all the information which the one member of the Committee had. I ruled that I could readily understand a

member of a Character Committee being in possession of information which he would not be justified in disclosing to anyone, not even to other members of the Committee, and that when a member of a Character Committee refuses to sign a favorable report on his honor as a member of the Committee and as a Mason, this should be sufficient.

"(2) Evergreen Lodge, No. 95, asked whether or not it is permissible to rent a Masonic Lodge Room to the Ku Klux Klan for the purpose of meetings. I ruled as follows: 'While the renting of Lodge premises is a matter for local decision, premises which have been dedicated to Masonry should not be used for any other purposes. If the premises have not been so dedicated the Lodge may in a proper case rent to some other organization. The best interests of the Craft should, however, be carefully considered, and no action should be taken which might lead to the conclusion that the Masonic Order is entangled with any other society or organization.'"

Apparently District Deputy Grand Masters should be more cautious in their reports. The following quotation indicates the necessity of fully apprising one's self of all details before offering criticism that would be closely scrutinized:

"The officers of Qu'Appelle Valley Lodge, No. 4, complained to the Board of General Purposes at the meeting of Grand Lodge last year of certain statements amounting to criticisms of the manner in which the affairs of the Lodge had been conducted, which were contained in the report of the District Deputy Grand Master for District No. 9. I appointed a Commission consisting of R.W. Bro. Craig, M.W. Bro. Kingsbury and R.W. Bro. Reilly to inquire as to the correctness of the statements contained in the report of the District Deputy and to report their findings. The Commission made full inquiry and reported their findings, which are to the effect that the criticisms of the District Deputy Grand Master were not warranted. I desire to thank the members of the Commission for the very thorough and able manner in which the inquiry was conducted."

Two lodges were constituted and consecrated during the year and one Masonic Temple dedicated.

The remarks of the Grand Master on citizenship and obedience to law are timely and merit the consideration of every Master Mason:

"As Canadians, therefore, we have a national citizenship,

an empire citizenship, and a world citizenship, each of which carries with it responsibilities which it is our duty to recognize. How shall we recognize these responsibilities? There is only one answer and that is contained in the word 'patriotism'—patriotism in its highest form, meaning the measure of our possible service—the doing of what is best in order to serve our own country, the Empire and the family of nations of which the League of Nations is the organized expression today.

"In conclusion I desire to refer briefly to some of the things which should characterize a citizen of Canada and of the Province of Saskatchewan. A good citizen should be law abiding, an upholder of the laws of the country, thereby setting an example to others. There is nothing more clearly set out in the ancient charges of a Freemason than observance of law and respect for and obedience of the civil magistrate.

"Laws are sometimes enacted which do not meet with our approval; our duty is, however, to obey them and adopt constitutional means of having them repealed. We must ever remember that as Masons we are expected to live and act as good citizens and set an example for others to emulate."

The Address of the Grand Chaplin, couched in inspiring phraseology, abounds with Masonic truths and ideals.

"He stands with instruments of labor in his hand to aid him in his noble task: the twenty-four inch gauge, the gavel, the square, the compasses, level and plumb-rule, for his to be a life of virtuous conduct and such unerring step that others may not fail who copy his example. He sees a widening circle drawn that reminds him not only of his duty to those of the Brotherhood of Masonry,, but his responsibility to all men:

" 'That man to man the world o'er
Shall brothers be an a' that.'

"Then he stands—a man, a Mason and a citizen. Not a member of some political party, but as a man and a Mason pledged to loyalty, to the institutions of the country which gave him birth or affords him her protection. He welcomes all who join in building a united, contented and God-fearing nation. He rejects the poisonous teachings of treason and turns a deaf ear to the whisperings of those who would loosen the bonds that binds us to the other units of the Empire or to the Motherland. To these he would say as Edgar Guest says in 'My Sentiments':

" 'Said Tom McCann to a foreign man who worked at the self-same bench,

"Let me tell you this," and for emphasis, he flourished a Stilson wrench,
"Don't talk to me of your bourjoisee, don't open your mouth
to speak
Of your Communist and your Anarchist, don't mention your
Bolshevick,
For I've had enough of your foreign stuff, I'm sick as man can be
Of this speech of hate, and I'm telling you straight, that this
is the land for me
If you want to brag, just take that flag and boast of its field
of blue,
And praise the dead and the blood they shed for the peace of
the likes of you."

Number of Lodges 189

Membership 13,843

Net Gain 237

D. S. W.

SCOTLAND—1928

Rt. Hon. Lord Blythswood, Grand Master.

Below is an extract from a fine tribute paid by the Grand Master to Bro. the Rt. Hon. Earl Haig:—

"After his warfare was over, he made his life-work the interests of those who had served under him and who, through the effects of the war, were unable to help and support themselves, and the care of the dependents of those who had made the supreme sacrifice. What higher aim could any hero have had, and for this noble work he will always be revered and remembered. It is indeed characteristic of Douglas Haig that he had no desire to be laid to rest where England's heroes sleep, but should wish to sleep his last sleep among his own people at his beloved home in Scotland at Bemersyde, on the banks of the Tweed."

Past Grand Master the Earl of Elgin also said:—

"I think that his Masonic history is one which cannot but impress itself upon all those who knew him. He was, as we know, a Freemason from the core, one who had thoroughly served his apprenticeship and had proved in himself the very ideals of what a Freemason should be. We here today can only profit by his example, and try to follow in his footsteps."

This Body has a Grand Committee of which a certain number of members retire annually by rotation, their places being filled by election in Grand Lodge. Other committees report to this Grand Committee, thus decreasing to a great extent the work necessary to be done when Grand Lodge convenes.

It is interesting to see how often lodges in all parts of the world under this Grand Lodge, use Kilwinning as the name or part of the name of the lodge, thus testifying to their love for old associations. Thistle and St. Andrew are other favourites.

On looking over the business of the Committee of the Fund of Benevolence we find large expenditures but also large incomes. To take two months as examples, the income for one of them was 1021 pounds and for the other 1051 pounds. There is also an Annuity Fund to which the same applies.

At the end of the report of each committee meeting we find the courteous little sentence:—"The Chairman was thanked for presiding."

Many gifts are continually being made to the Grand Lodge Museum and Library and these are acknowledged in the Quartely Reports, for example. An ancient apron from a lodge in Aberdeen with the emblems painted theron, a New Encyclopadia of Free-masonry, etc.

"In terms of remit by Grand Committee at its meeting on January 19th, 1928, there was submitted an application by Lodge Saint David, Ibadan, Nigeria, No. 1356, for permission to wear Masonic clothing as desired, but that permission to confer degrees and a Masonic Thanksgiving Service, and to confer degrees in cases of emergency at an interval of not less than one week instead of two weeks.

"On consideration thereof, it was agreed to recommend Grand Committee to grant permission to the Lodge to wear Masonic clothing as desired, but that permission to confer degrees at a shorter interval than two weeks be declined."

The above from Nigeria is just an example of the wide jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

SOUTH CAROLINA—1928

Charlton Du Rant, Grand Master.

It was recommended that a committee be appointed to frame standards or rules for recognition of other Grand Lodges and report at the next Communication.

In speaking of other degrees the Grand Master says in part:—

“The responsibility of the subordinate Lodges extends to every Mason of whatever degree. The heavy hand of punishment in the Blue Lodge should fall upon those who bring a public reproach upon Masonry, and it makes no difference whether this is done at a Shrine meeting or anywhere else. There is nothing wrong with the Shrine, but there has been something wrong with some Masons in the Shrine.”

Under the heading “Masonry and masked mobs” he tells us that on being asked his opinion regarding flogging and other lawlessness by hooded mobs, he replied:—

“Masonry in all its teachings and principles stands for obedience to law and especially condemns the lawlessness of the angry mob led by evil men attaining its ends in cowardly disguise.”

His remarks on this question were approved by the Committee on his address as follows:—

Masonry has always frowned upon and put its stamp of disapproval on all forms of lawlessness. Its teachings indeed fall on deaf ears if that lesson is not learned. We wish to assure the Grand Master that his utterance on the subject has the unqualified approval of all good Masons.”

The reports of the twenty-five District Deputy Grand Masters are on the whole favourable, and show that those officers have been painstaking in the discharge of their duties.

The report of the Educational Committee shows an expenditure of nearly \$7,000.00 which was mostly taken up by the salary and travelling expenses of the Director. An appropriation of \$8,000.00 was again recommended.

The Director finds that the lodges with the smaller memberships have the largest percentage of attendance.

A motion to donate \$10,000 for the erection of a unit for tubercular patients at State Park Sanitarium was adopted.

SOUTH DAKOTA—1928

George Oscar Goodman, Grand Master.

During the year two lodges were constituted, the corner stone of one Masonic Temple laid and two Masonic Temples and one Masonic Hall dedicated.

The Grand Master in a very inspiring address reviewed the progress of Masonry and the activities of Grand Lodge during the year. His appeal to Masons to look well to the larger citizenship is worthy of the consideration of every member of the Craft.

"We are pioneers in the Fraternal world; our history is rich in tradition and pride of ancestry, but we cannot rest on past laurels, nor be unmindful of the future, for continued success and prestige will be ours only in proportion as we labor intelligently and take our part in the affairs of the world. This fact is especially true in view of our rapidly changing conditions."

The Grand Master appears worried over the suspension of members for the non-payment of dues and is of the opinion that "A desire on the part of the member to definitely withdraw from all Masonic work and interest is the only valid reason why a member should be suspended for non-payment of dues." This

might very well be held up as an ideal for the consideration of Masters and committees but to adopt it in practice as the only criterion would not prove satisfactory.

The Grand Master speaks of the sufficiency of Masonry and expresses the fear that "side degrees" tend to detract from the contribution the Order is capable of making to its membership.

"These organizations derive their inspiration from Masonry, their sustenance from the Craft, and credit before the world as factors of Masonry. They appeal to the imagination of our members and bid for their thought, their attention, their time and their service, thereby tending to divert them from their original allegiance."

Charitable Appeals by Outside Organizations

Acting on the recommendation of the Grand Master the Committee on Jurisprudence brought in the following resolution which was adopted:

"No Lodge, individual or organization shall make or circulate within this Grand Jurisdiction any Masonic appeal for financial aid for any purpose unless such appeal be authorized by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master."

It was found advisable by the Grand Lodge of Manitoba to adopt a similar resolution in 1927.

GENERAL FUNDS

Cash on Hand and Receipts	\$ 40,441.93
Disbursements	28,143.59

PERMANENT GRAND CHARITY FUND

Cash on Hand and Receipts	\$ 27,575.71
Expenditures	17,512.15
Invested in Grand Charity Fund	144,313.56
Number of Chartered Lodges	176
Net Gain in Membership	24
Total Membership	19,707
	D.S.W.

TASMANIA—1928

Hon Claude James, Grand Master.

From the report of the Board of General Purposes we find that the Ritual Committee recommended the adoption of the 1926 edition of Emulation working with a code of instructions as an addendum. The Board however resolved to request the Grand Master to appoint a Committee to draw up a ritual for Tasmania. One member of the Board said he had seen the M.M. degree worked quite differently in different lodges. It was pointed out that in Australia nearly all the rituals used are largely based on Emulation working, but that the working out of a ritual should be left to the judgement of the committee. The Grand Master promised to appoint a committee for this purpose.

Fraternal recognition with the Gran Logia de Chile was re-established.

The total membership is 3832 and the net increase for the half year was 17.

It was suggested that the Board prohibit publication in the public press of Installation proceedings. This was not done but the Board decided to draw attention to views expressed by the Grand Master of 1923. It may be inferred from what is said that his views were against such publication.

At the Masonic Conference held at Sydney it was resolved that the Grand Lodge of England be invited by the different Grand Lodges, to send a fraternal delegation to Australia.

It has been decided to submit to Grand Lodge a proposal that the Constitution should be amended to provide for the appointment instead of the election, of Inspectors of Lodges.

Each Inspector is superintendent of a district of

lodges, corresponding to our District Deputy Grand Master.

TENNESSEE—1928

Stanley W. McDowell, Grand Master.

The Grand Master is to be congratulated on stating matters exactly as he found them. He commends highly the work of the District Lecturers and the general condition of some of the lodges, but he also tells us:—

“My experiences, correspondence and visits have thoroughly convinced me that what a large portion of the Fraternity in Tennessee most needs is education, Masonic and literary, and that such will continue to be the case Masonically until much more progress shall have been made literarily, even in elementary schools. There are so many members of so many Lodges who apparently do not realize the possibilities, responsibilities, and exalted purposes of a Masonic Lodge, or how to conduct one with proper order, dignity, decorum or success.

“Three-fourths of our Lodges are in small towns and rural communities, more than one-third of them being in the latter. Many of our rural Lodges are located in or near a public school building which is a disgrace to a civilized community, and in which an attempt is made to conduct a very poor so-called school for only a few months each year. The standard of efficiency and the physical and spiritual condition of many of such Lodges is in keeping with that of the school and its building.”

He adds that there are lodges with dues as low as fifty cents a year, which is not only less by \$1.75 than the Grand Lodge dues, but looks altogether too much like cheapening Masonry in the minds of the brethren themselves.

Then speaking of consolidation:—

“Automobiles and good roads have made it no longer necessary for Lodges to be so numerous an close together. I have tried all the year to effect the consolidation of Lodges wherever it appeared advisable, because usually two small Lodges, situated close together, can accomplish much more united than separated.”

In giving his rulings, three of which are quoted below, he says that some lodges do not seem to know that they have a Code, as answers to most of the inquiries which he received could have been found therein.

"There is nothing to prevent Master Masons in good standing from meeting in a properly tiled room on a second or upper floor and rehearsing the work and lectures of Symbolic Masonry, even though there is no Lodge at that place.

"No Lodge may meet as such, confer degrees or otherwise be at labor in two or more separate Lodge rooms at the same time, even by using two or more corps of officers or workers in different rooms of the same building.

"A dispensation is not necessary for public installation of the officers of a Lodge in an auditorium other than the Lodge hall."

Ten lodges were fined for not having their returns in the hands of the Grand Secretary by the proper time, also a number of others for various causes which are covered by this Edict.

"Any Subordinate Lodge whose annual return to the Grand Lodge fails to show the imprint of its seal, ownership of Code, signature of Worshipful Master and Secretary, reading of Edicts and Synopsis of Proceedings, time of stated meeting and date of charter, shall be penalized in the sum of \$5.00, which shall be used for the benefit of the Widows' and Orphans' Home."

The Widows' and Orphans' Home suffered considerable damage from a severe storm. The repairs which cost over \$2,000 were paid by order of the Grand Master out of an Emergency Fund which he has at his disposal.

The total receipts for this Home for the year were \$97,408.00 and disbursements \$96,439.00. There were 205 guests in the Home on January 1st, 1929.

Below is the first of six verses composed by a Past Grand Master of the Jurisdiction which were read in Grand Lodge.

ARE YOU A MASON?

"Perhaps you have been tested with signs and words and grips,
And praises won as answers fell from practiced lips;
But I would test you further—if you be weak or strong—
Are you a Mason, Brother, or do you 'just belong'?"

TEXAS—1928

G. R. Montgomery, Grand Master.

The Charters of five lodges were arrested for failure to meet during a period of three months.

A resolution was suggested by one lodge that the office of District Deputy Grand Master should be filled by rotation among the respective lodges comprising the various districts and among the eligible and qualified members thereof.

Part of the Grand Master's reply was:—

"While District Deputy Grand Masters are, of course, officials of the Grand Lodge, yet they are the personal representatives of the Grand Master, and my experience has demonstrated to me, not only the desirability, but the absolute necessity of their being the appointees of the Grand Master, rather than of some particular Lodge or Lodges."

During the year the Grand Master was informed that an organization purporting to be operating under the auspices of the Grand Orient of France, was organizing a lodge of Co-Masonry in the jurisdiction. After causing inquiries to be made which confirmed the information, he reports:—

"I immediately instructed him to notify the Lodges in his District that this was a piratical, outlaw organization, and that no Mason should have anything to do with it. This apparently had a very salutary effect, as there has been no further evidence of activity on the part of this organization."

It has been customary to print in the Texas Proceedings, lists of all members of each lodge, but as it

has been found that this list has been used for other purposes than those intended, the Grand Master advised that only the names of the three principal officers, the Treasurer, Secretary and all living Past Masters, be printed. This was afterwards approved, but the full lists will be printed in pamphlet form and one copy sent to each lodge in the jurisdiction.

Lodges are advised to present a copy of "Streets Symbolism of the Three Degrees" to each newly made Mason. This was taken up in the address also in the Report of the Committee on Masonic Education. It had been arranged by that Committee to have this book divided into three parts, one for each degree, so that the E. A. would receive Volume No. 1 and so on. A total of 6,000 sets of three volumes each has already been distributed and more are required as soon as they can be got ready.

On the advice of the Committee on Jurisprudence the following was adopted:—

"The Grand Lodge of Texas prohibits the use of the word 'Masonic,' and all like terms, as well as Masonic emblems, on signboards, business cards, or stationery, or any way for the purpose of advancing the secular interest or business or political fortunes of individual Masons."

Below is the law in Texas regarding demitted (unaffiliated) Masons and unnaturalized foreigners:—

"Article 400. A Mason becomes a non-affiliate at the expiration of six months after he demits from his Lodge or ceases to be a member thereof by any means other than by suspension or expulsion, unless he has in the meantime become a member of some other Lodge; provided, that should such Mason die within the period of six months after he has applied for and received his demit, and before he affiliates with some other Lodge, his membership shall revert to the Lodge from which he has demitted, and he shall be entitled to Masonic burial and all other rights and privileges of Masons in good standing.

"An unnaturalized foreigner, even though he may have resided in this Jurisdiction the required time and possesses the other necessary qualifications, is not eligible to receive the degrees of any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction."

UTAH—1928

Dana Tyrrell Smith, Grand Master.

Like most Grand Lodges, since the post-war rush of applications subsided, this one reports a steady though not large increase in membership, which is a very satisfactory form of growth.

Grand Masters throughout the world are more and more giving the attention to Masonic education which it deserves.

The following is from the Grand Master's address:

"Even among some of the most energetic and enthusiastic Masons misconception of our purposes, and lack of knowledge of our authentic history prevails, and it is difficult to remove convictions once formed. With most of us the little knowledge which we may have of Masonry is generally acquired by absorption from what we may hear, and not by study, consequently it is apt to be evanescent, whereas that knowledge we acquire by our own study and labor is retained."

He then indicates literature which would be useful to brethren desirous of doing as he urges.

The brethren are to be congratulated on having built and dedicated a new Masonic Temple. It is described as "truly magnificent in design, beauty and usefulness," and as a credit to Freemasonry in the jurisdiction.

The following is part of a communication sent to each lodge regarding Masonic Lodges appearing in public:—

"1. The Worshipful Master and officers should wear dark clothing and black shoes. The Master should NOT wear a silk hat unless he wears a cut-away or a frock coat, the latter being sometimes called a Prince Albert. The Master should never wear a silk hat in public with a sack coat. If a sack coat is worn the hat should be a dark derby or fedora. The proper dress for the Master of a Lodge on a public daylight occasion is a dark cut-away coat with lighter striped trousers.

"2. It is desirable that the members of the Lodge conform to Masonic tradition by wearing dark clothing and black shoes."

This volume of Proceedings is a model of convenience and is excellently got up.

This is not a large, but it evidently is quite an alive jurisdiction. 5107 Master Masons, 25 lodges.

VERMONT—1928

M.W. Bro. Edwin F. Greene, Grand Master

Fraternal Greetings were received from the Grand Lodges of Iowa and Manitoba.

The Grand Master was completing his second term. In an able and inspiring address he points to the success and possibilities and still greater achievement within the Grand Jurisdiction.

Not least inspiring are his beautiful words of the members of the Craft who have departed this habitude:

FRATERNAL DEAD

"I count it most fortunate that notwithstanding life's vicissitudes and the critical period through which the people of our State have passed during the past year, we are again able to meet with our official ranks unbroken; and yet out from our Subordinate Lodges many a loved brother and valiant soul has gone away on life's greatest and most glorious adventure. Due honor will be paid by our Committee on Necrology and memorial pages will appear in our Annual Proceedings for these dear comrades who have simply gone on ahead to give us welcome.

" 'Time brings us changes and leaves us fretting,
We weep when every comrade goes,
Perhaps too much, perhaps forgetting,
That over yonder there are those,
To whom he comes and whom he knows.' "

Fraternal relations were established during the year with the Grand Lodges of Ireland and of the York Lodge of Mexico.

No digest of Masonic law for this jurisdiction has been prepared for twenty-two years though many amendments to the Constitution have been made during that time.

The Grand Master recommended that the Grand Secretary—"that Grand Old Man of Masonry"—be made General Secretary Emeritus at the present salary and a new Grand Secretary be appointed.

The closing words of the Grand Master's Address are those of one who has served long and faithfully and who loves the Craft:

"In closing the last address it will ever be my happy and solemn privilege to make to you, as Grand Master, I would like to leave with you this thought of a 'personal inventory', honestly taken by each brother; with Masonic principles and tenets for your guide, remembering that:

" 'The high soul climbs the high way,
And the low soul gropes the low.
And in between, on misty flats,
The rest, drift to and fro.
But to every man there openeth,
A high way, and a low,
And every man decideth,
The way his soul shall go.' "

During the year the Grand Master assigned one Grand Lodge Officer co-operative supervision over each Masonic district. These Brethren assisted the District Deputies at several of their meetings.

Number of Lodges 109, Members 19,263 Net Gain 175.

D. S. W.

VICTORIA—1928

W. P. Bice, Grand Master.

At the first of those Communications the Grand

Master elect, W. Bro. Lord Somers, was installed. This ceremony differs from ours in that a choir plays a considerable part in it. At the closing of Grand Lodge a verse of the National Anthem is sung.

The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens are appointed by the Grand Master as is done in England. Since 1920 the membership in this jurisdiction has almost doubled, the net increase last year was 2703, with twenty new lodges consecrated.

A visitor, a native of India, from one of the District Grand Lodges of that country was introduced, and while addressing Grand Lodge said:—

“I may inform you, brethren, that India is not behindhand in Freemasonry, and we are determined to go along further. Sometimes the people there are friendly, and sometimes unfriendly; but that cannot be said when they meet in Masonic Lodges. I take part in the Ceremonies as well as those who call themselves Christians. Here there is a one-color platform, but do not forget whatever, that, when we meet together in Lodges, we leave aside our nationalities and our pride of race or caste, and we feel ourselves on the most intimate friendly terms as brethren.”

At the last quarterly an unfortunate incident occurred. After M.W. Bro. Lord Somers had been nominated for a second term another nomination was made. The Pro Grand Master stated that this nomination was a gross insult to Grand Lodge, that the brother in question did not in his opinion possess the necessary qualifications and that his experience in Freemasonry was not of such a nature as to give him the necessary requirements to fill that high office. The nomination was ruled out and the Grand Master declared re-elected.

On looking it up we find that the brother who made the second nomination had been suspended for twelve months from Nov. 18th, 1926 from all Masonic rights

for unmasonic conduct. As the incident mentioned happened in December, 1927 his time of suspension was over, and he was evidently trying to make trouble.

VIENNA—1928

Before the war the fourteen lodges which existed in the Austrian part of Austria-Hungary had been constituted on Hungarian territory by the Symbolic Grand Lodge of Hungary, Masonry in Austria having been forbidden and suffering both religious and governmental persecution. At that time therefore, lodges in Austria were obliged to assume the appearance not of Masonic bodies, but of ordinary charitable institutions. Between 1870 and 1914 many public welfare institutions were established by the Freemasons though on account of the ban on the Fraternity this could not be done by them openly as such, but to use their own expression they were obliged "to go by a sideway."

When Austria became a republic in itself after the war, it became possible to drop the camouflage. The Grand Lodge of Vienna was constituted and new lodges established, but on account of religious opposition it is found difficult in many parts of the country to do this even now.

The Grand Lodge looks on it as their task to do away with the feeling of political, religious and economic animosity towards each other which actuates so many of the citizens of the country, and to bring about a broader and better mutual understanding.

Since 1918 Masonic study and research have received a good deal of attention. Lodges in the country are frequently visited by lecturers from Vienna and there is a library service which provides those lodges with Masonic literature.

A Relief Fund is maintained and brethren passing

through the country who are in distress through accident or unforeseen circumstances, receive help, though it has been found here as elsewhere that there are numbers who wrongfully attempt to pass themselves off as brethren, and claim assistance which they have no right to expect.

There is also a widows' and orphans' fund to which each member must contribute a small sum.

Dual membership has been introduced in order to facilitate the establishment of new lodges. At the end of three years the brethren who assist to form a new lodge, either return to their first lodge or give it up and become members of the newly established one. Whilst assisting to establish the new lodge they pay dues only to it.

Last year the third Congress of the Universal Masonic League, which held its first meeting in Switzerland three years ago, assembled in Vienna.

This Grand Jurisdiction has twenty-three lodges, the earlier ones instituted by Hungary between 1870 and 1914, and 1637 members. It has met with many discouragements and we wish it success in the years to come.

VIRGINIA—1928

James Bowman, Grand Master.

Last year the Manitoba Review of this Grand Lodge reported the absence through illness of M.W. Bro. Eggleston and we regret to find his death recorded in this year's Proceedings. He was the fraternal correspondent and M.W. Bro. MacEwing said of him, "He can truthfully be said to be one of the outstanding members of our Masonic World, and a forceful writer."

This jurisdiction has now 50,000 members and is divided into 60 districts. The District Deputy Grand Masters receive high praise for their work, and as the Grand Master says:—

“Without the help of these real eyes and arms of Masonry the Craft would be almost a cripple and unable to attain the splendid heights of Masonic service for which we are so distinguished.

“Our Deputies are the immediate present representatives in their respective Districts of your Grand Master, and their advice and rulings are accepted by the Craft as those of the Grand Master until the same is reversed.

Bro. L. P. Harrell has been appointed to represent Manitoba in Virginia.

One of the recommendations of the Grand Master was that every petitioner who is elected to receive the E.A. Degree, should receive that degree in the lodge which elects him. He put up a good argument for this but there was no change made in the law.

In his concluding remarks he says:—

“To be a MASON is a great honor; to be appointed to serve the Craft, in any capacity, a privilege; but, to be called to the exalted position of GRAND MASTER of more than Fifty Thousand, true and loyal Brethren of the Mystic Tie, is above the price of rubies and an heritage of which even the fourth generation may indeed be proud.”

The names of all brethren of each lodge, also the names of those suspended for N.P.D. are printed. This takes up 322 pages, but the suspended are not numerous.

WASHINGTON—1928

Robert A. Wilson, Grand Master.

At a meeting of the Lodges near Vancouver, Wash-

ington, held at Vancouver, the Grand Master tells us he had the pleasure of being received between the parallel lines of seventy-four Past Masters.

At Grand Lodge identification cards are issued to those entitled to vote, when they register. These are supplied in four colours which indicate whether the voter is entitled to one, two, three or four votes, and when the time comes for the election of officers, ballots corresponding in colour to those cards are distributed. This system has been adopted to dispense with calling the roll for each individual voter and to save time in Grand Lodge.

From the Grand Lecturer's Report when speaking of Masters who do not fit themselves properly to do the work in the lodge as it should be done:—

"It is a empty honor to be Master of a Lodge and not fulfill the whole duty of the position. In former years your Board of Custodians has recommended strengthening the law pertaining to efficiency of officers previous to installation; this should be done."

Then in regard to additional degrees he says:—

"After full observation of the workings of some of our brothers in behalf of the additional degrees, and I submit that I have opportunity for such observation, I hold that the intent of this Grand Lodge can be arrived at vastly better by making it a Masonic offence for a Mason to solicit a new brother for such additional degrees within a specified time. Within the past ten days I have learned of one instance where a brother was soliciting a candidate while he was waiting for the stewards to prepare him for the first degree."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence to which applications for fraternal recognition are referred, has formulated a list of nine requirements to be considered in granting or otherwise such requests. These were submitted to the Committee on Jurisprudence, approved by them and adopted by Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Masonic education has been try-

ing out different methods in the way of assisting the lodges along research and educational lines:

"Prior to this time (1927) the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Research and Education had depended upon reaching the various Lodges by sending out speakers who were qualified to talk on some special subject pertaining to Freemasonry; the actual expense of such a lecture to be borne by the Lodge requesting the service of such speaker on his particular subject."

It was found that sometimes Lodges were not in a position to meet such expenses, that the speaker when wanted might be otherwise engaged, & etc., the result being that any lodges received no benefit from this plan.

"It was obvious, therefore, that the Committee must evolve some other method of contact with the Constituent Lodges. Therefore, a correspondence method, by the use of Questionnaires has been pursued during the past year.

"Letters from various Lodges over the entire jurisdiction, from far off Alaska to remote Lodges within the state itself, have proved the wisdom of the method adopted. There has been much demand for books on Masonic subjects, especially for the 'Little Masonic Library'."

SUGGESTIONS

(1) "That a Committee be appointed in each Lodge with a competent Chairman. We are pleased to say upon examination of our records, we find that at least sixty per cent. of the Lodges have organized such committees.

"That every officer of the Lodge from the Tyler to the Worshipful Master, or any brother so desiring, be given the privilege to enter into and discuss the questions embodied in the Questionnaires sent out by the Grand Lodge Committee, especially the Questionnaires on the Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge embodied in the Masonic Code of Washington. The Committee has also issued a Questionnaire dealing with the historical side of the Institution, and still another on Symbolism embodied in the Ritual."

After pointing out that Masonry is so ancient that it is well-nigh impossible to draw the line between its existence and non-existence, the Grand Orator says:—

"These are matters for the antiquarium and the Masonic student and would require leisure as well as patience to fully develop them. In the few brief moments at our disposal, let us rather observe and reflect, as we cannot do too often, upon those great tenets and principles which are the moral and spiritual foundation-stones upon which Freemasonry rests."

WEST VIRGINIA—1928

F. W. Van Horn, Grand Master.

Just what the landmarks of Freemasonry are is a subject often discussed, and some quotations from a committee appointed to report on this question should prove interesting. This committee says that all landmarks are comprehended and included in Masonic common law, but that all propositions of the common law do not rise to the dignity of landmarks, and that there is a great difference in the number recognized by different jurisdictions. The findings of several Masonic scholars are given, the numbers approved varying greatly, the late Dr. Kuhn giving two as his idea, and H. B. Grant giving fifty-four.

"The 'landmarks' of Masonry are the immemorial usages and fundamental principles of the Craft, which no Masonic authority can alter or repeal. They have existed from a time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary.

"Your committee, then submits the following list of eight 'landmarks' in their order:

"1. Belief in God, the Creator, Author and Architect of the Universe—omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent.

"2. Belief in the immortality of the soul.

"3. A 'Book of the Law' as an indispensable part of the furniture of the Lodge.

"4. The government of the Fraternity by a Grand Master.

"5. Secrecy: Applied to the modes of recognition, certain symbols, the ballot, obligations, signs and pass words, and forms of initiation.

"6. The legend of the third degree.

"7. Ancient Craft Masonry includes only the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason.

"8. A Mason must be a man, free born and of mature age."

The report of the committee was approved and will be printed in the Text Books for the benefit of the Craft.

A year ago the residents in the Masonic Home numbered 39, but this was increased to 74 during the past year, and as the capacity of the Home is 90, the necessity for enlarging the institution is stressed.

Speaking of Masonic relief the Grand Master impressed on the brethren that each lodge should have its own charity fund and only apply to Grand Lodge when it has been exhausted.

There are 166 chartered lodges and all of them were represented at Grand Lodge.

Ten Special Communications were held, all for the purpose of laying cornerstones.

WISCONSIN—1928

Herbert W. Dixon, Grand Master.

"Too many men receive the degrees and are straightway lost to us except as they pay dues. This is a dangerous condition. If it is worth while to accept a petitioner and confer the degrees upon him, it is also worth while to make an effort to retain his interest in the Fraternity.

"It would seem the part of wisdom to call a halt in the conferring of degrees and devote a portion of our energies to assimilating the members already within our ranks. Our duty to them is more compelling than any obligation resting upon us to make new Masons."

The above very sensible remarks were made by the Grand Master when speaking on the Condition of the Craft.

Two of his decisions are interesting as showing customs different from those in practice here:—

"It is neither proper nor permissible for a Lodge to assemble and attend Divine worship wearing Masonic clothing. Such a practice savors too much of an effort to advertise our piety. The necessity for attending Divine services is recognized but we should do so as individuals, not as a Lodge.

"The Lambskin or White Apron is the badge of a Mason. It is never proper to wear it under the coat. Symbolically the Apron suggests a very useful purpose which is destroyed if covered by other clothing."

The Committee on Jurisprudence agree that both those decisions are correct, but in regard to the latter it adds:—

When discussing organizations which seek Masonic recognition the Grand Master says:—

"This is an age of new societies. They spring into being over night in limitless numbers. Many of them are worthy in themselves and are organized by noble men and women for laudable purposes, yet all of them claiming Masonic affiliation in any form are potentially dangerous to Freemasonry."

A Special Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence which was adopted, recommended that an official standard for the recognition of other Grand Lodges by this one should be adopted, and that a committee of five be appointed to frame such standards and consider such applications.

